

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LXIX.]

HONGKONG, MONDAY, 1st MARCH, 1909.

No. 19

### CONTENTS.

|                                                             | PAGE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Far Eastern News.....                                       | 157  |
| Leading Articles:—                                          |      |
| The Queen City of the East.....                             | 158  |
| The Amnesty.....                                            | 158  |
| The Cloud's Silver Lining.....                              | 159  |
| Armed Robbery in Hongkong.....                              | 159  |
| Cairo to India Railway.....                                 | 159  |
| The Fakumen Railway Question.....                           | 160  |
| The Cure of Leprosy.....                                    | 161  |
| Random Reflections.....                                     | 161  |
| Hongkong News.....                                          | 161  |
| Kowloon British School.....                                 | 162  |
| Institution of Shipbuilders and Engineers.....              | 163  |
| Official Visit of the Governor of Macao.....                | 163  |
| Hongkong Horticultural Show.....                            | 164  |
| Hongkong Legislative Council.....                           | 165  |
| Proposed Boat-Shelter at Mongkoktsui.....                   | 166  |
| Excitement on the Praya.....                                | 166  |
| A.D.C. Performance of "a Country Girl".....                 | 166  |
| Alice Memorial Hospital.....                                | 167  |
| Outport Municipal Councils.....                             | 168  |
| Execution at Victoria Gaol.....                             | 168  |
| Chinese Girl's Suicide.....                                 | 168  |
| Sequel to a West River Collision.....                       | 168  |
| Supreme Court.....                                          | 169  |
| Canton News.....                                            | 173  |
| Canton-Hankow Railway.....                                  | 173  |
| New Solicitor Enrolled.....                                 | 173  |
| Foreigners and Mortgages on Chinese Property in Canton..... | 173  |
| Company Reports:—                                           |      |
| Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Ltd.....                   | 174  |
| Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.....                      | 174  |
| Company Meetings:—                                          |      |
| Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.....              | 174  |
| Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company.....                      | 175  |
| Hongkong Hotel Company.....                                 | 175  |
| Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.....                                  | 176  |
| Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd.....                   | 176  |
| Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.....                      | 176  |
| Outrage in Kowloon.....                                     | 177  |
| St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon.....                           | 177  |
| A Policeman's Death.....                                    | 177  |
| Death of Mr. Haver Droeze.....                              | 177  |
| A Hat Trick.....                                            | 177  |
| New Shanghai Club.....                                      | 177  |
| Opium Commission.....                                       | 178  |
| Collision at Chinkiang.....                                 | 178  |
| Hongkong Jockey Club Off Day Races.....                     | 179  |
| Ruffs' Regimental Gymkhana.....                             | 179  |
| Sale of Ponies.....                                         | 180  |
| Hongkong Perjury Case.....                                  | 180  |
| Directory and Chronicle for 1909.....                       | 180  |
| Annual Report on Kiaochau.....                              | 180  |
| Far Eastern Telegrams.....                                  | 181  |
| Shipping Notes.....                                         | 181  |
| Commercial.....                                             | 182  |
| Shipping.....                                               | 184  |

### MARRIAGE.

On the 20th February, at Bootle, Liverpool, ALFRED MOLINEUX LESTER, of Shanghai son of the Rev. GEORGE LESTER of Liverpool, to PANSY MARY, daughter of the late ROBERT LAW of Shanghai.

### Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD C1.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 27th January, arrived per s.s. *Altest*, on the 26th inst.

The French Mail of the 29th January, arrived to-day, per s.s. *Nera*.

### FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Scott returned to Shanghai from Tairen on the 17th inst.

At a general meeting of the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation Ltd., a dividend of Rs. 300 per share on the original issue and Rs. 75 per share on the third issue was declared.

The *Foochow Echo* announces the engagement of Mr. F. T. Lachlan, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ltd. to Daphne daughter of Dr. & Mrs. T. Rennie, of that Port.

The premises of Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co. at Shanghai on the 16th instant were burglariously entered by thieves who made off with clocks, watches, etc., to the value of several hundred dollars.

The Chinese Government, it is stated, will shortly open Lien Shan in the Gulf of Pechili about 200 li north of Shanhaikwan as a free port. The harbour is ice-free, and could, it is declared, be made superior to Dalny.

Mr. John Noble of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., and Mr. Douglas Vickers, of Messrs. Vickers, Son & Maxim, who are staying in Tokyo in connexion with the Muroran Steel Foundry, were received in audience by the Emperor last Monday.

Sir Ewen Cameron, K.C.M.G., formerly London manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, who died on December 10, left £52,755 net. He gave £50 to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Athletic Club in London.

After a long trial Mr. Justice Secombe Smith has given a verdict in favour of Mr. A. Emslie Benzie, formerly secretary of Messrs. Howarth Erskine, Ltd., in the case against him claiming \$44,800 and \$1,400, respectively, as damages for fraudulent misrepresentation in a certificate given by him in connection with the floating of the new Hogan & Co.

The Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs have just published their annual list of light-houses, light vessels, buoys and beacons on the coast and rivers of China. The total number of these lights is now 408. A number of charts show the position and kind of lights, and the letter-press gives much detailed information of great value to navigators in Chinese waters.

From the Home papers now to hand giving particulars of the disaster to the White Star liner *Republic* we learn that her commander was Captain Sealby, who for many years had the command of one of the Company's steamers running between San Francisco and Hongkong, and is therefore personally known to many of our readers. His friends will read with interest the appreciation of his heroic conduct recorded in the published reports of the disaster.

Judge Rufus Thayer, who has recently been appointed by the President Judge of the United States Court in China, was entertained at dinner by a number of friends at the Chevy Chase Club Washington, on the 16th ult. and was to leave Washington on the 21st to take up his new duties. Henry E. Davis presided at the dinner, which was followed by a number of speeches and an evening of general good fellowship and regretful farewells. Chinese music, by gramophone, was played while the dinner was in progress.

A proposal to admit lady players as unofficial members of the Kobe Golf Club on payment of an annual subscription of 5 yen was considered at a special meeting of members and rejected by 22 votes to 11. A resolution to allow ladies to use the links on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays after 4 p.m. was also rejected by 26 votes to 9. Mr. Hansell, who moved these resolutions, declared the result to be "another exhibition of Kobe selfishness," and said he believed there was not another links in the world where ladies were not admitted.

With the death of Senhor Antonio J. Diniz an old resident of Shanghai has passed away and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank loses a member of its Staff who had served it well and faithfully for forty-one years. Senhor Diniz was born in Macao in 1841 and arrived in Shanghai on May 29, 1861. After a brief term of service with the *North-China Herald*, he joined the firm of Messrs. Smith, Kennedy and Company, with whom he remained for six years, until they went out of business. In January 1868 Senhor Diniz entered the service of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, working at the Hankow Office with Mr. John Walter during the tea season.

The first half yearly balance-sheet of the Siam Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. shows a net profit of Ticals 172,767.31, whereof it is proposed to utilise Tcs. 39,339.25, being 5 per cent. p.a. on the cost value of the steamers and 10 per cent. p.a. of the launches, junks, etc.—as depreciation, leaving Tcs. 133,428.06 to be divided as follows in accordance with the Articles of Association of the company:—5 per cent. for the half year to the shareholders absorbing Tcs. 100,000; remuneration to the Directors Tcs. 3,342.80; to be carried to the Reserve Fund Tcs. 10,000; further dividend to the Shareholders 1 per cent. Tcs. 20,000; to be carried forward to next half year Tcs. 85.26.

The remains of the late Mr. Edward H. Strobel, General Adviser to the Government of Siam and Minister Plenipotentiary, were cremated at Bangkok recently with State ceremonial. His Majesty the King, the Crown Prince and a large number of other royalties were present. Mr. Strobel was an American, and the coffin was draped with the Siamese flag and the Stars and Stripes. It is seldom, remarks the *Bangkok Times*, that the body of a European dying in Siam is cremated, though cremation is the regular mode of disposal of the dead in this country. In recent years at least, the only instance that anyone seems to recall is the cremation of the late Dr. Gowan, who was at one time His Majesty's physician.

Twins were born on the *Hitachi Maru* on her present voyage. Among the passengers bound for Singapore were Mr. and Mrs. Sheedy and three children. During the voyage out, Mrs. Sheedy was safely delivered of twins—boy and girl—an event perhaps not unparalleled but certainly rare in the annals of the sea. As befitted the occasion, the babies were given *Hitachi* as a Christian name in each case; but the Japanese officer who reported the occurrence in the Boarding Officer's register on arrival here, rather complicated matters by making the following entry:—Male—Kathleen *Hitachi* Sheedy;—Female—Robert *Hitachi* Sheedy;—Mr. Sheedy comes out after a year's furlough to take charge of the Detective Station at Penang.



## THE QUEEN CITY OF THE EAST.

(Daily Press, February 20th.)

In the *Daily Press* a few days ago appeared an interesting extract from "The Letters of Queen Victoria" in which Her late Majesty shortly after her accession informed the King of the Belgians that "ALBERT is so much amused at my having got the Island of Hongkong, and we think VICTORIA ought to be called Princess of Hongkong in addition to Princess Royal." The amusement of the Queen and her Royal Consort was very natural at the time, but Her Majesty happily lived long enough to watch the rise of this "wretched, pestiferous Island of Hongkong" (as one writer described it nearly twenty years after its annexation to the Crown), to the proud eminence of being one of the largest shipping ports of the world, and a great emporium of trade. When the Queen in 1841 wrote the letter from which we have quoted the site of the present city of Victoria was, to borrow the words of Dr. DENNYS, "a rugged slope of rock, shelving in most places precipitously to the waters with a narrow path-way winding along the cliff, to which the fanciful name of Kün-tailu, or 'Petticoat-string Path' was given by the fishermen and villagers who then constituted the sole population of the island." Its importance at that date to the people of Britain lay in the fact that the Minister Plenipotentiary had his headquarters here, and even after the issue of a Colonial Charter in 1843, the office of Minister to China continued to be combined with that of Governor of Hongkong until the capture of Canton in 1857 put an end to the system under which foreign affairs had been conducted by the Chinese Government, and the subsequent installation of the British Legation at Peking severed all connection between the Government of Hongkong and the diplomatic service. Queen VICTORIA and the Prince Consort had ample excuse for jesting over the annexation of this speck in the ocean and the designating of the city which was expected to develop practically on the sea beach by the name which succeeding generations of Englishmen will continue to hold in highest honour. When we look up what was written about Hongkong in those days we are the better able to appreciate the amusement it created in the Royal Family to learn of the wish to designate the city by the Queen's name. The city was to grow up on the beach "because there was no level space elsewhere . . . . The rocks, which constitute the whole soil, are composed of rotten, decomposing granite which as is well known, is as productive of gases and malaria as any bad jungle in India."

The Chinese have always regarded the place as fatal to human life, and they will not live there beyond a certain season." As for the Chinese who were here at the time, they were described as nearly all fishermen "who are pirates when opportunity presents." No wonder that the Prince Consort was "so much amused." But we can be quite sure that the amusement must have been succeeded by admiration in the Royal household as the decades passed, and in the Jubilee year of Queen VICTORIA's reign Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX, then the Governor of the Colony, was able to say of Hongkong:—"It may be doubted whether the evidences of material and moral achievement, presented as it were in a focus, make anywhere a more forcible appeal to the eye and imagination, and whether any spot on the earth is thus more likely to excite, or much more fully justify, pride in the name of Englishman." Since that was written

the great reclamation enterprise which will for ever be associated with the name of Sir PAUL CHATER has been completed and covered with some of the finest buildings to be seen anywhere in the Far East. The city of Victoria indeed has developed to an extent undreamt of by the pioneers in the Colony; and who, having regard to the railway developments in progress on the other side of the harbour, will say that the limit of expansion has yet been reached? The Princess VICTORIA was never made "Princess of Hongkong," as the Queen jestingly suggested but in the days of its prosperity the Colony not only additionally honoured Her late Majesty and itself by placing in the centre of the enlarged city a massive bronze statue of the Queen who gave her name to the city but is surrounding this statue with others of their Majesties that King and Queen, and Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. In addition we have a fine bronze statue of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught who has twice honoured us with a visit, associating himself with the Colony on the first occasion by laying the foundation stone of the Reclamation, and on the second occasion by unveiling the statue of H. M. The King and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. Nor does this exhaust the ways in which the Colony has continued to live up to its royal designation, for have we not our noble block of King's Buildings, our Queen's Buildings, Alexandra Buildings, and Prince Buildings, and at Kowloon our King's Park? We have verily become citizens of no mean city and can appreciate the amusement which must have been caused to Her late Majesty when the news reached her that the Island of Hongkong, then but a barren rock, had been added to the possessions of the British Empire and requesting her sanction for the designation of the embryo city as Victoria. The city has gradually extended from the beach to the very top of the hills, and there is Scriptural authority for the statement that a city set upon the hills cannot be hid. We share the view that Hongkong has not yet seen the zenith of its prosperity, and that it will still further justify its queenly designation.

## THE AMNESTY.

(Daily Press, February 22nd.)

The amnesty proclamation issued by the PRINCE REGENT on behalf of the EMPEROR cannot be complained of as not going far enough in the way of mercy, and is studiously worded so as to give no offence to any while pardoning all. In some respects, as when restoring all forfeited honours, it goes further than sovereigns who have felt themselves personally aggrieved are wont, and clearly is intended to show to the world how thoroughly the REGENT means to identify himself with the aspirations of his brother when the career of the latter was cut short by the Palace *coup d'état* of September 1898. If such be the real foundation of the Amnesty it is curious to observe how ingeniously it has been issued as an accompaniment to the further honorific titles to be conferred on the late EMPRESS DOWAGER for her virtues and talents, as well as for what she did for the Empire during the half century in which she held with a tight grip the reins of government. Leaving out of consideration the crimes of her administration, which cannot be blinked nor palliated, there is no doubt that the late EMPRESS REGENT was one of those mortals in whom the art of government is inborn, and not acquired by any process of education or after-development. What she did towards raising

the position of China was instinctive, and in no measure proceeded from reason; and hence it was that it was accompanied by many draw-backs, which equally curiously were instinctive rather than the outcome of any specially demoniacal type of character. As a fact the character of the late Dowager Regent, will long continue to be one of the standard mysteries of history, as incapable of solution as her own birth and abstraction. Wisely the present REGENT supported by his councillors have realised the fact that to continue such a government without those peculiar faculties of mind possessed by the late EMPRESS DOWAGER has become a matter of impossibility; so the Edict lately published must be looked upon as an evidence that the new administration has made up its mind to break entirely with the past, and start a new régime. There is on the one hand no doubt that many of the officials who had incurred the special enmity of the late REGENT richly deserved their punishment; but on the other hand there is equally no doubt that many who had incurred her most pronounced hostility were able and honest officials who had simply fallen foul of some of the worse traits of her character. This was the difficulty that faced the administration in issuing the amnesty for the past; it was better, evidently thought the present advisers, that the door should be opened too wide than that any worthy official, whose only fault had been that he did not fall in with one or other of the peculiar idiosyncracies of the late REGENT, should merely for that reason be excluded for ever from the path of preferment. Not all those ministers of various rank who had formed the entourage of the late EMPEROR before the *coup d'état* were incapables or corrupt, nor were they prepared to act the part of such disloyal agitators as SUN YAT-SEN and others; the numbers involved were, however, so great that it was impossible to make a selection without being certain to admit many undesirables, while at the same time excluding many deserving. This apparently has been the reason for making the amnesty practically universal. Some of the clauses in it are worthy of special mention as indicating an intention of departing from one of the worst blots of the Chinese system,—the practise of vicarious punishment, whereby the relatives of an accused culprit are, however innocent, made partakers in his punishment. The wives and sons of those who have died under the sentence of banishment, whose position has hitherto, according to Chinese practise, been hopeless, and entailing untold misery even when perfectly innocent, will, says the Edict, be entitled to return home, should they so desire it, on reporting their case. This practise of making innocent relatives suffer for the crimes of others in which they have taken no part has been a rule of Chinese procedure, it is true, during all periods of the existence of the State. It has been more especially the rule during the present dynasty whose position towards their Chinese subjects has ever been one of fear and distrust. It is thus one of the symptoms of the growing intention of abolishing by degrees the distinction of Chinese or Manchu that this act of mercy should be more especially included. Of the same nature are the clauses making repairs to temples a national duty, and throwing on the state the upkeep of roads and bridges for the benefit of travellers. One of the worst features of the early Manchu rule in China was the neglect of the old means of intercommunication, and the destruction as a matter of policy of the roads and bridges throughout the Empire, which had under the Mings been one of the main objects of imperial care. Even if the



new Edict contained only this one clause it would be a sign that the rule of distrust was passing away, and that the amelioration of the condition of the people at large was to be one of the main objects of the present rulers. There has, of course, never been any lack of paraded benevolence in China, even the worst attempts at increasing the burdens of the people have even been accompanied by cheap discourses on the duty of benevolence, and the regard of a paternal government towards the people under its charge; the distinguishing feature of all these proclamations has ever been that they were confined to abstract terms, and never descended to particulars. The present, then, is a departure from the established type, and really concerns itself with two of the most crying abuses of the Empire,—the punishment by proxy, and the neglect of the communications. Another return to old custom is suggested in the proposed restoration of the practice of memorial tablets long fallen into disuse. The system had, indeed, become an abuse and been made the means of levying exactions from the richer classes, but the idea of holding up for public admiration the record of distinguished deeds was one tending to elevate the moral tone of the population; and the suggestion of its revival indicates a desire to return to more sympathetic measures in the relations of governors and governed.

Altogether, if not abused, the amnesty marks an evident desire to conform to the wishes of the people at large; and accompanied with the promises of granting to the nation at large very considerable powers of self-government, may mark a new era in the state. It is one of the best signs of the fitness of the Chinese as a people for wide extensions of the principle of self government that, although clearly determined on the subject, they have refrained from agitation or haste. In these qualities they have exhibited a marked contrast to the other nations which have of late had similar aspirations; Russia, Turkey or, worst of all, Persia. In one respect the situation in China is entirely different from the others. Neither side looks upon the changes as a gift; it has, on the contrary come about from perfectly natural causes, largely financial. The authorities in Peking have had it prominently brought before them that the system of provincial administration fails to bring to the central government any fair share of the local revenues, yet year by year the central Government is being further saddled with perfectly legitimate expenses which have to be met. The late regency had a method of its own in dealing with this problem, that of unlimited bribery and corruption, which was bringing the whole system into disrepute, and must have ended in the subversion of the Empire. The late Emperor, and his brother, the present Regent early saw that this could not last, and that the only way out of the difficulty was by substituting for the provincial system one of popular control. Hence the movement has had the solid ground of mutual benefit. This it is that removes the Chinese call for popular control above the vulgar cry of mere democracy, and unites rulers and people. Popular government in China is in fact a reaction against the abuses of the Provinces; and it is this practical element that has largely influenced the recent Edict.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd. held on the 17th instant, it was decided to recommend that, at the approaching annual meeting, a final dividend of 25 per cent, making 40 per cent for the year, should be declared.

## THE CLOUD'S SILVER LINING.

(Daily Press, 23rd February.)

Though there were no clear signs of trade revival apparent when the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation addressed the shareholders last August Mr. SHELLIM considered there was justification for taking a hopeful view of the future, as cheap money and diminishing stocks were factors which were bound sooner or later to bring about a commercial revival. No institution is in a better position in the East than the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to feel the pulse of trade, and at the meeting of shareholders on Saturday the Chairman had the satisfaction of stating that although trade in the Far East during the past six months had not been altogether satisfactory he regarded the hopeful view of the prospects taken at the last meeting as having been justified. And now, with a healthier tone noticeable, with business generally on a sounder basis, stocks of imports being gradually reduced, crops good, renewed commercial activity throughout America, and money plentiful and cheap in Europe, the Chairman regarded the time as ripe for a return to prosperity and the commencement of a new period of expansion in trade. That will be welcome news not only to shareholders of the Bank but to the public generally. In spite of the restricted trade of the past six months the Bank has managed to do exceedingly well, and as Mr. Ross remarked in seconding the adoption of the Report and Accounts: "If this be the result of a half-year of dull and restricted trade, what indeed may be expected when the tide of prosperity again flows in the Far East!" It is satisfactory to observe that the note of optimism is not absent from the addresses of Chairmen of other Companies in the Colony. Times have been bad for most concerns, and misfortune in the form of typhoons has added to the difficulties of the position in the case of estate and wharf and shipping companies, so that the stocks of such companies are generally quoted much below what they were five years ago. But, as we have remarked, a more hopeful view of the future has been taken at most meetings of shareholders that have yet taken place. Mr. ROBERT SHEWAN when presiding at the meeting of shareholders of the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd., was particularly emphatic in the expression of his belief that better days are at hand in the Colony when "those who have had faith in Hongkong and its fortunes will reap their reward." Certainly there is no need to be pessimistic about the future of the Colony. As Mr. SHEWAN said, the resources and facilities of the port of Hongkong as a depot for the trade of South China are still untouched and unrivalled, and will be enormously increased when once communication by rail is opened up with the great cities of the interior. There can be no doubt of that, and meanwhile with trade reviving throughout the world, and with the improving prospects of business in China following upon exceptionally good harvests, and with plenty of money waiting the expected revival of trade, there seems ample justification for the confidence which is generally felt that prosperous times are about to return.

Chinese Public Opinion states that the number of the mines, working or preparing to work, in Fengtien Province is as follows:—Gold, 55; silver, 5; copper, 9; iron, 7; lead, 9; coal, 85; graphite, 1; glass sand, 2; stone 3; making a total of 176, of which about 50 are working, the others having already been granted licenses.

## ARMED ROBBERY IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, February 23rd.)

The present Criminal Sessions at the Supreme Court of Hongkong are noteworthy for the number of cases of armed robbery which the Judge and Jury have been called upon to try. Out of the eleven cases set down for trial no less than nine are cases of this description. The exemplary sentences which His Honour the Chief Justice has passed on the prisoners found guilty will meet with general public approval. Five years' imprisonment in each case was the measure of punishment meted out for these dastardly crimes and in addition the Chief Justice ordered the convicted prisoners to be flogged with twenty four strokes excepting in the case of one who did not seem able to stand much flogging, and he was let off with twelve strokes. Fortunately armed robbery has not been very rife in Hongkong of late years, and the extraordinary succession of such crimes just before Chinese New Year was surprising. It may be hoped that the sentences passed at the Assizes yesterday will have the desired deterrent effect and that the Colony will enjoy immunity from such crimes for a long time to come.

## CAIRO TO INDIA RAILWAY.

(Daily Press, February 25th.)

Some two or three years ago the *Hongkong Daily Press* suggested as the natural sequel to the Cape to Cairo Railway, then occupying much attention, the advisability of supplementing it by the even more feasible project of a Cairo to India Railway, which we showed from an engineering point of view was quite feasible, and which would reduce to almost insignificant dimensions the present, still heroic, overland route from Europe to India. Starting from Ismailia, we proposed to carry a line round the head of the Gulf of Akabah, and thence, taking advantage of the comparatively fertile uplands of Shomer and Nedjed, to cross Arabia to the flanks of the Jebel Ermek, which it would follow to Koweit. Though there are no superficial rivers, flowing as in most parts of the world on the surface, this district of Arabia is known to have extensive underground waterways, and along almost the entire of the route sketched wells sunk little below the surface are at short intervals available for irrigation. The moist subsoil, and the comparative elevation, the tableland lying at an average height of a thousand feet over sea level, is influential in lowering the mean temperature, so that with the exception of a few weeks after the summer solstice the climate of these districts may be described as fairly temperate. We have for long been on friendly terms with the many of the more settled populations of Arabia, and throughout these districts the wandering Bedouins have always been subservient to the civil administration. A greater difficulty would, of course be found in the fact that these civil administrations in this part of Arabia belong for the most part to the fanatic sect of the Wahabees, yet there are indications that if we succeeded in convincing them that the construction of the railway would be the most effective means for preserving them from Turkish encroachments, the present opposition to intercourse with the outer world would of itself cease. In fact the girdle that Turkey has succeeded in the past in putting round Arabia is one of the main causes of the exclusiveness of



the Wahabee governments to strangers, whom hitherto they have always classed with Turks. A few years ago, while the Hejaz Railway was still in contemplation, any proposal for crossing Arabia would have met with determined opposition from Turkey, as interfering with her supposed rights. The actual construction of that line has now, however, altered the position; so far, in fact, from the objection that the proposed line would be in any way interfere with the traffic on the Hedjaz Railway, the suggested railway, which would cross it at right angles at the head of the Gulf of Akabah, would be a direct benefit to the Turkish line, inasmuch as it would become one of its most important contributories, tapping in its interest important pilgrim traffic from southern Persia, as well as from Afghanistan, Beluchistan and Mohammedan India. Thanks to recent events in Turkey, the political jealousies which for some years alienated from England the Government of Sultan ABDUL HAMID have in a great measure ceased, or been exchanged for friendship, so that any great opposition here is not to be apprehended.

A new proposal to which we have alluded at the head of this article, appears in the *Nineteenth Century* for January, and is from the pen of Mr. C. E. D. BLACK, who from his former position in the Indian Service, where he was in charge of the Geographical Department, is eminently qualified to judge of the practicabilities of the route. Practically the western portion of the line is the same as that previously suggested in the *Daily Press*, but Mr. BLACK goes further in suggesting its extension through Persia, right up to the frontiers of India, where it would join the already existing Peninsular system of railways. Starting from Port Said or Ismailia, the line would cross the Suez Canal, and traverse the Sinaitic Peninsula to the head of the Gulf of Akabah. So far the two suggestions are identical. From that Mr. BLACK proposes that the line should ascend the Wady-el Ithm to the rocky plateau of Northern Arabia, which he would traverse, as nearly as possible, in a direct line, to the oasis of el Juf, and thence on to Ibasra. There are, he acknowledges, many objections to be urged against this route, which would not be encountered in that suggested by ourselves. The plateau is on the whole higher, and is far more rocky. It is for the most part, if not all the way over volcanic formations, and is exceedingly rugged, and more difficult to cross with a line of railway, while, except in the oasis of el Juf, the country is uninhabited except by the wildest of the Bedouin tribes. Except for the springs in the oasis itself, there is absolutely no water to be had, so that all needed for the service of the train or for the needs of the passengers would have to be carried. The gradients would besides be far more difficult. On the other hand the route would be shorter, possibly by some 150 or even two hundred miles, but this point could only be accurately ascertained after survey. The more southern route through Shomer and Nedjed would have the enormous advantage on the other hand of passing through a fairly well-peopled district, where are to be found numerous towns and villages and an industrious settled population; this route is likewise, and this would be one of its main recommendations, outside the usual track of Bedouin incursions.

So far the Arabian portion of the lines would offer no insurmountable difficulties, and would probably be of itself fairly remunerative, but it is in the Persian section suggested by Mr. BLACK, that real difficulties would have to be surmounted;

the line would cross in fact the main axis of the mountain ranges of southern Persia, which have at all times proved a serious obstacle in the way of transport. Though various districts are fertile they are separated by alternate mountain range and waterless desert, and towns are few and at long intervals. Mr. BLACK does not here profess to name a suitable route, further than to suggest that it would have more or less to follow the Karun. The differences of level and the ascents and descents, are here far more formidable than in the case of the crossing of Arabia, while there is a great, or possibly still greater difficulty with regard to water. In any case, and this applies with redoubled force to the Persian section, there would be scarcely any local traffic to depend on, so that the question for the financier of the line to consider would be whether the terminal traffic would compensate for the initial difficulties and uncertainties. That sooner or later a direct railway to India will become a political necessity, no one who has studied the great Eastern question of the day can ignore. Meanwhile it is both useful and interesting that the many possible routes should be freely discussed, so that each may add a little to our preliminary knowledge of the subject. Here in China, we are, even though more distantly, still actually interested. Already China is beginning to make approaches towards extending her railway system into Shensi and Kansu; and the same impelling motive which is urging her so far must of necessity compel her to attack the problem of Eastern Turkestan. How Eastern Turkestan and India may be put into effectual communication with one another is, it is true, not likely to become in the near future a matter of practical import, but there is no escaping the future necessity of providing some more satisfactory method than as yet presents itself for accomplishing the desired result. The great reason why in the past Asia, whose civilisation is of far older birth than that of Europe has permitted the latter to beat her in the race of civilisation, is, of course, the difficulty of communication. Anything which will tend to place Asia on an equal footing in this respect, will *pari passu* act towards removing the discrepancy; and the end becomes a worthy ambition for all those who desire to advance the material prosperity of the greatest of the continents.

### THE FAKUMEN RAILWAY QUESTION.

(*Daily Press*, 26th February.)

The controversy over the Fakumen railway project in Manchuria has now been actively carried on for something like eighteen months, and it does not appear that there is any early prospect of a settlement being reached. Japan's right to object to the Chinese Government's projected line from Fakumen which runs for about fifty miles parallel to the South Manchurian railway is based on an agreement with China. The subject seems to have excited an extraordinary amount of interest in the British Press, and there has been singular unanimity in condemning Japan's opposition to the project as a breach of faith with the Powers in the matter of her engagement to maintain the "open door" principle in Manchuria. Quite recently the *Times* has declared Japan's opposition to the new project as "absolutely irreconcilable with the policy of the open door." Japan denies that her action in this matter is inconsistent with the open-door policy, and it is very evident that the British Government is inclined to adopt Japan's view of the matter. In the agreement

concluded between Japan and Great Britain in 1905, for "the preservation of the common interests of all Powers in China by insuring the independence and integrity of the Chinese Empire and the principle of equal opportunities for the commerce and industry of all nations in China," the two Powers agreed that neither of them would, without consulting the other, enter into separate arrangements with another Power to the prejudice of the objects described. Four months after this agreement was concluded Japan made a Treaty with China relating to Manchuria, by Art. VII of which the two contracting parties agreed "to make arrangements as soon as possible for connecting the service of railways in South Manchuria and those in China proper, in order to promote and facilitate the transport of goods." But in addition to this agreement, which was published for the information of the world, there was a protocol which was not published. In accordance with the terms of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, however, a copy of it was communicated to the British Government, and Sir EDWARD GREY last year communicated to the House of Commons the text of the clause of the protocol by which Japan claims the right of vetoing the construction of the Hsinmintun-Fakumen railway. It runs as follows: "The Chinese Government engage, for the purpose of protecting the interest of the South Manchurian railway, not to construct, prior to the recovery by them of the said railway, any main line in the neighbourhood of and parallel to that railway, or any branch line which might be prejudicial to the interest of the above-mentioned railway." If the British Government had regarded that clause as being inconsistent with the open-door policy, surely it would have said so when the copy of the Protocol was communicated to the Foreign Office. We must assume that the Government did not regard the clause as at variance with Japan's declared adhesion to the open-door policy; and there is no indication that the Government has been converted to the view of the Newchwang Chamber of Commerce. LORD RONALDSHAY in some observations on this subject in his recently published book, points out that the South Manchurian railway is "the sole material return which Japan has to balance the loss of £20,000,000 and 85,000 lives," and while he advocates the submission of the Fakumen railway question to arbitration he, nevertheless, fails, as we do, to see anything reprehensible in her endeavouring to safeguard, by diplomacy, the single material return which she has to show for the misery and carnage of eighteen months' war. "No other country in the world," Lord RONALDSHAY pertinently remarks, "would fail to make every endeavour to obtain in return every advantage which political or diplomatic exigencies allowed." Some months ago Sir EDWARD GREY said it was open to the contractors to prove, if they could do so, to the satisfaction of Japan, that the proposed railway would not prejudice the South Manchurian Line, and so would not violate the agreement. They have not succeeded in doing so, and Japan, our okyoko respondent informed us, has no intention of departing from the attitude she has taken up. If this means that Japan is open to conviction that the projected railway will not be prejudicial to the interests of the South Manchuria railway, she could well afford to say: "We are prepared to accept on this point the judgment of an independent and impartial committee." As it concerns but fifty miles of railway the whole question could be settled within a week. There seems indeed



no other way of settling the matter in a manner which, in the eyes of the world, will redound to Japan's credit, for insistence on the letter of an agreement maintained for two years as a secret has naturally tended to excite suspicion and to alienate sympathy. We share the view that it would surely be to the advantage of Japan to make a graceful concession, to waive the letter of the law, and to offer to submit the matter to arbitration.

### THE CURE OF LEPROSY.

(Daily Press, 27th February.)

The news of the successful treatment of leprosy which was communicated a few days ago to the Medical Congress now sitting at Bombay indicates that a remedy has been found, at last for the cure of this terrible disease which has hitherto been regarded as incurable. Captain WILLIAMS of Bushire told the Congress that as a result of experiments with Professor DEYCKE's remedy known as "Nastin," extending over a period of eight months, he had cured two lepers, two others had been approximately cured, and a fifth patient had remarkably improved. Nothing is said in the brief telegram as to the stage the disease had reached in the patients referred to, but as the report covers a period of only eight months we assume that the patients who have been cured or approximately cured in that time could only have been in the initial stages of the disease. It is nevertheless a remarkable medical triumph. Nastin, the new remedy, has received a good deal of attention recently. The inventor of it is Professor DEYCKE, late Director of the Military School of Medicine at Constantinople. The new treatment was officially brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies early last year by Sir PATRICK MANSON, who suggested that Professor DEYCKE should be given the opportunity to make a practical and exhaustive trial of his remedy at one of the Colonial leper asylums, and the institution at Mahaica, in British Guiana, was mentioned as offering special facilities for the purpose. The Government of the Colony readily acceded to Lord CREWE's proposal to permit Professor DEYCKE, in co-operation with the Demerara Government bacteriologist and the medical superintendent to apply his remedy on an extensive scale at the Mahaica asylum at his own expense, being allowed such laboratory and other facilities as may be required in the course of his work. Accordingly Professor DEYCKE went out to British Guiana at the end of last year, and the remedy is now, we presume, under test. It goes without saying that the experiment is regarded as of the utmost importance, for, should it prove the success Professor DEYCKE confidently hopes, it is anticipated that the Imperial Government will take steps actively to encourage the adoption of the remedy in other British Colonies. Those in charge of leper hospitals, however, do not need much encouragement to try any new remedy which is shown to have had encouraging results. The successes announced by Captain WILLIAMS, R.A.M.C., at Bushire, are certain to lead to a trial of the remedy in every leper asylum in the world. We recently drew attention in our columns to a medical note in the report of the Leper Home at Tungkun, near Canton, referring to an incomplete experiment which had been made there with this remedy, and appealing for a sum of money to enable that Director to obtain a new supply of Nastin. Dr. KUHN, the Medical Director of the Asylum, made a trial with Nastin on two patients, but the

supply of the remedy gave out, and the Doctor states in his report that the number of patients with whom the trial was made and the number of injections given had not been sufficient to enable him to express an opinion on the results. His appeal to some generous donor to provide a sum sufficient to obtain a new supply of Nastin suggests however, that, so far as the treatment had gone, the experiment was not unpromising. Though it had lasted twelve months without any very remarkable result, it is important to note that the two men on whom the trials were made had been lepers for seven years. Evidently the Medical Director was of opinion that the Nastin treatment in the initial stage of the disease is more likely to be effective, for in appealing for the necessary funds to enable him to make more extensive trials with Nastin, he says it is proposed to have a separate building where those may stay who are in the initial stage of the disease and are willing to submit to the treatment for a few months or a year. The results obtained at Bushire are so encouraging that if the Director of the Tungkun Leper Home has not yet been placed in a financial position to obtain the supply of Nastin he needs for more extensive trials, we trust this further reference to the matter will elicit some response.

### RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Wasn't it curious that the meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank should be held in Race Meeting week and disclose a record of good business done? I don't mean to suggest that it was cause and effect. It is merely a coincidence.

Reflections after the Races are not profitable, unless they be never to bet again, but even should such a resolution be contemplated it is found difficult to adhere to it next year when the event looms large and its financial possibilities fascinate the ordinary individual. After all the excitement was pleasurable and the fun was good, and if one has not depleted his finances too seriously one ought to feel the better for three or four days when carking care was driven to the winds and even business ceased to worry. The Races took most people out of themselves, and for that we ought to be glad. The change - to other people - must have been appreciable.

There were many tales told of men suddenly raised from a status of financial depression to comparative affluence and corresponding elation, but there is a charming simplicity about the story of the Chinaman who after studying the board to see if he had drawn anything in the cash sweep, noticed a compatriot nervously fumbling a piece of paper. The latter was unable to read English, but his joy can be imagined when his more accomplished compatriot informed him that the ticket which he held was worth \$8,000. There would be jubilation in that man's house when he got home.

The funniest story of the races I have heard related to two men who fancied a certain horse when it appeared and on being informed by a bystander that its name was such and such went and placed their money on it. To their disgust they saw the animal coming in last, but what was their surprise to find that their tickets were for the winning horse. They had been wrongly informed as to the name of their fancy but had luckily backed the winner. Some people have the luck.

While writing on the subject of luck, I should mention the experience of a local broker. He contemplated a Sunday trip to Macao and overnight he had a dream in which the figures 4, 1, 4 kept recurring. On landing at Macao he was conveyed in a ricsha to his hotel, and as he intended retaining the vehicle he went behind it to note the number. There he saw the same figures 414. As he had related his dream and

subsequent experience to the friends who were with him, they accompanied him to the fantan house, where other numbers had been turning up but immediately the broker put his money down the figure four brought him a fair return. The next time he betted on the figure one. He won again. And so on for seven times. Then it stopped. And the gamblers stopped too, and returned home, well satisfied with their good fortune. Some of our friends who dabble in occult sciences might be able to furnish an explanation. I can't.

The spring exodus has commenced. The first contingents are already on the homeward journey and preparations for departure are noticeable in many houses. Next month however should see the big rush.

The inadequacy of magisterial sentences crops up again. Last week Mr. Wood sent a man who returned from banishment to six weeks' imprisonment, while Mr. Kemp imposed a sentence of six months' imprisonment for a like offence. The comparison suggests that the former gentleman either regards the offence as less serious than the other or else he holds different ideas on the subject of punishment. Perhaps we might do worse than give some consideration to the Spanish system which still obtains in the Philippines of codifying punishments. It makes impossible such anomalies as those recorded. Each offence has a stated punishment.

We can quite understand the tired feeling which now prevails in Manila. The strenuous days of the carnival, with its prolonged joys, are over, and its citizens are realising that twenty-four hours per diem of enjoyment is too much even for the American constitution.

Those who patronised "A Country Girl" recall the smile which followed Nan's statement that she would be engaged at night counting beans, - counting how many made five, as she subsequently explained. But even Nan would be nonplussed had she been confronted by the mathematician who in demonstrating to his class the use of the slide scale said: "We will now multiply two by two." He gravely announced the result as "3.9, which for practical purposes we may take to be four." Probably he knew how many beans made five.

I don't know whether it will popularise whisky or popularise suicide, but I could not help being struck by the news which I read in a home paper the other day that a domestic servant had committed suicide by drinking a pint of whisky, suffocation consequent on alcoholic poisoning being the verdict of the jury. Whisky has many uses, but this is the first recorded instance of its being utilised for the purpose of committing suicide. But I don't anticipate our good folks in the East will worry over this. Their capacities remove them from all danger in this direction.

RODERICK RANDOM.

### HONGKONG.

An Indian died of plague in a house in Austin Road, Kowloon on Saturday. This makes only the second case of plague in the colony since January.

A regulation made by His Excellency the Governor under section 18 of the Post Office Ordinance of 1900 prohibits the transmission by post of opium, morphia, morphine and cocaine.

It is interesting to note the revival of the use of the birch rod, as many as five prisoners being ordered by the Chief Justice on Feb. 23rd to be birched in addition to their sentences of imprisonment.

On Thursday a lukong was brought in from Shatin in the New Territory to Victoria suffering from injuries, which, it is believed, were received through accidentally shooting himself. He died in the hospital yesterday.

A marine from H.M.S. Bedford reports to the police that between Sunday night and Monday morning he was robbed, probably by a ricsha coolie, of a Benson silver watch valued at eight guineas, a double gold curb watch chain, and a gold stone in the form of a Freemason's emblem, in all worth about eighteen guineas.



The plague return for the week ending 20th instant places the total cases at three, two of which proved fatal. The return of other communicable diseases for the same period shows one case of diphtheria, two of enteric fever and an imported case of small-pox.

On Feb. 19 Vice-Admiral Perrin, of the French cruiser *D'Entrecasteaux* paid an official visit to H.E. the Governor at Government House and His Excellency returned the compliment later in the day by going on board the cruiser. He received a salute of fifteen guns, and the band played the National Anthem.

Acting Inspector Watt placed a lukong on the charge sheet at the Magistracy on Feb. 26. The lukong apparently arrested a coolie for being a rogue and a vagabond and proceeded to maltreat him. Inspector Watt came on the scene and stopped him. The lukong was ordered to pay a fine of \$25.

Private Robinson, of "B" Company, the Buffs, was brought before the Magistrate on Feb. 26 and remanded on a charge of gambling in a passage at the Race Course. He was also charged with disorderly behaviour. The case was remanded. The defendant was playing, it is alleged, the game known as crown and anchor.

The Local Representative of the National Children's Home, London, begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following sums:—

|                                                 |         |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Wesleyan Church, Hongkong                       | \$32.00 |
| Collected by Miss E. Baker                      | \$30.35 |
| Yule-Tide Quartette: Part proceeds of carolling | \$64.75 |

The concert given by the Choir of St. John's Cathedral on behalf of the organ fund was repeated in presence of a good house last night in the City Hall. The programme was practically the same as before but unfortunately Miss Brotherton Harker was unable to fulfil her engagement. The concert was thoroughly enjoyed.

A summary case in which Man Lee Chan and Co. are suing the International Banking Corporation for the recovery of \$840 said to be payable under a bank draft, was to have been heard before Mr. Justice Gompertz at the Supreme Court on the 24th ult. As a previous case, however, would take the greater part of the afternoon, his Lordship adjourned the hearing until Monday.

His Excellency the Governor has written to Mr. M. S. Northcote, the Honorary Secretary of the Hongkong Devonian Society, acknowledging the kind and sympathetic resolution passed by his fellow Devonians at the annual meeting on Saturday, and His Excellency adds that both Lady Lugard and himself are deeply sensible of and grateful for the large sympathy and kind feeling which has been so constantly expressed during her ladyship's dangerous illness.

A very enjoyable evening was spent by those who attended the quadrille party given by the Royal Artillery Sergeants' Games Club at the Mess, Victoria Barracks, on Tuesday night. The decorations, which were the work of an energetic committee, were superb, while the minor details which tend to make a function of this kind a success, had not been overlooked. There was a large attendance, which included a number of artillery officers, and there can be no doubt that all enjoyed themselves immensely. Company Sergeant-Major Owen acted as M.C., and dancing continued merrily until the early hours of morning.

A gasfitter who was sent to a house to remove certain fittings at the request of the occupier did not produce his authority from the Gas Company, but instead showed his certificate as a gasfitter. This somehow roused the suspicion of the inmates who thought the man had come with the intention of stealing the fittings and they decided to retain him pending the arrival of the police. The gasfitter resented this and when they would not let him go he used his hammer and knocked one of the men into the side channel. The latter rising quickly determined to pay off the injury and gave the gasfitter more than he desired, so that when both men appeared before Mr. Wood at the Magistracy yesterday they were considerably disfigured. Mr. Wood ordered both of them to pay a fine of ten dollars each.

## KOWLOON BRITISH SCHOOL.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

His Excellency the Governor presided at the annual prize distribution of the Kowloon British School, which took place on the 26th ult. Many parents of the pupils were present and His Excellency's arrival was announced by the scholars singing a stanza of the National Anthem. The Governor was accompanied by Miss Henniker and Captain Simson, Private Secretary.

Mr. JAMES, the headmaster, in opening the proceedings said:—Your Excellency, As this is the first occasion on which you have honoured us with your presence it has occurred to me that you might be interested in a short summary of the history of the school from its foundation. The school buildings were presented to the Colony by Mr. Ho Tong and the foundation stone was laid by His Excellency Sir Henry Blake on July 20, 1900. The school was formally opened by His Excellency Sir William Gascoigne on April 19, 1902. The school commenced its actual work on May 5, 1902, with thirty-three European pupils of both sexes. It had been decided that only pupils of European parentage on both sides were to be admitted. Accommodation had been provided for a maximum of 80 pupils and when this maximum was reached two years later the Government opened a similar school—the Victoria school—on the Hongkong side. This naturally reduced our numbers and we have never again reached our maximum. As a matter of fact the lean years which unfortunately set in, and which meant that firms were reducing the number of European officials, decreased our numbers still more, until in last September we had sunk as low as 39. Our numbers at present are again up to 70—an increase of about 50 per cent in the course of four months. I here venture to express a hope that those figures constitute a sort of barometric indication that trade is improving and that the Colony has already entered on a new era of solid prosperity. The late Governor, after an exhaustive inspection of the school, was good enough to make an entry in the log book—it was not on the occasion of a prize distribution—and to say that he highly approved of what has always been the school ideal—to train the girls and boys in the way best calculated to make them behave as ladies and gentlemen. The curriculum of subjects has been frequently altered as the result of experience and changed conditions. It has remained fixed for the last two years, the present Inspector of Schools being reported to have said that he had no further fault to find with it. I do not consider that the average pupil at this school—we have, of course, had some brilliant exceptions—is as far advanced as the average pupil of the same age in a school at Home. I give what I consider to be the reasons for this: 1.—The non-continuity of study. The length of a school generation here is about two and a half years. Pupils join and leave during any and all months of the year. In 1908, 81 pupils attended, the greatest number present in any one day being 60, and the average number 45. 2.—The difference in age. Pupils are admitted to this school at ages varying from 5 to 17 years, his means that every teacher has to take at least two classes simultaneously. 3.—Sickness. Pupils are kept at home by anxious parents more often than they would be in England. 4.—Climate. In the summer the heat of the sun, typhoons and rumours of typhoons interfere sadly with the regularity of the attendance. 5.—It seems rather unsportsmanlike to mention the fifth reason—the number of birthdays. I have not yet detected any pupil in the possession of more than one birthday in any one year, but at one time there was keen competition in attending a record number of birthday parties and in taking a record number of school days to recover from the effects of the good things consumed. This state of things was so bad one year that the Inspector of Schools dwelt strongly on it in his report and, as showing the interest of the Imperial Government in one of the least of Hongkong institutions, the Secretary of State wrote asking the Governor to use his personal influence to

improve the regularity of the attendance at Kowloon school. I am glad to be able to say that the complaint on this score has been of late years, almost, but not quite, reduced to a minimum. This school was the first in Hongkong to celebrate Empire Day. We have loyally observed it ever since and have appreciated the honour conferred upon the school in past years in being invited to be the guests of His Majesty's Representative on that day. In the course of seven years 259 pupils have passed through the school. During that time there has been no serious accident among the pupils or any fatal illness while resident in the Colony. The latter fact speaks well for the healthiness of Hongkong. For many years I have applied to the Government for a playground, but was always met with a regretful refusal as the cost was prohibitive. In the course of the last few weeks I am glad to be able to state that, though the persistence of the Inspector of Schools and the kindness of the Vestry of St. Andrew's Church, the playground has become an accomplished fact. I shall bring my summary to a close by giving a list of our benefactors. In the course of its existence the school has received gifts from Mrs. C. W. Dixon, H. E. Sir William Gascoigne, Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Mr. C. W. Jack, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Keswick, and the Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving. For the wherewithal to revive prizes year after year we have relied on the generosity of those long-suffering gentlemen the Hon. Mr. Gresson, Messrs. R. Shewan, J. R. M. Smith and the Kowloon Dock Co. (Applause.)

Mr. WOLFE, the Inspector of Schools, before reading his report, prefaced it with a few general remarks on the year's work. He stated that the school year had been a distinctly successful one, and that there was very little adverse criticism in his report. He was glad to note that in spite of an epidemic of measles last year the average attendance was only one point less than in 1907. There had been an increase of something like \$300 in fees collected in spite of the fact that the attendance had fallen slightly. The standard of work had been well maintained, except in the subject of hygiene which in British schools seemed to be somewhat neglected. This subject required a little more attention than it had received in the past. They were very much indebted to the Vestry of the Kowloon Church for allowing them to use portion of St. Andrew's ground, which adjoined the schools, as a playground. The speaker could not see why residents of the Peak did not take greater advantage of this school. The cost of pupils attending this school was 10s per head, and it seemed hard that the taxpayer should have to pay this amount while so many members of the community did not take advantage of the school.

The INSPECTOR then read his very satisfactory report, which was received with much applause. The Governor was then asked to present the prizes.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Mr. James, Ladies and gentlemen: You have given us a very interesting account of the origin and history of this school, and I think I recognise it as an abridgement of a most admirable appendix to an article published in the *Federal Magazine* of August 1907 by Mr. Irving on Education in Hongkong. Those who have not read that article I would recommend to do so, because it is a most admirable summary of the general objects and method of instruction in Hongkong. I was very glad to hear from you, and from the Inspector of Schools, that the average attendance has increased so very largely since last September. I trust that the average during the coming year may equal and exceed what it has been for the last two years, which I am sorry to say, has been somewhat less than it used to be before. I realise the difficulties which surround the system of education in this Colony, and which the Headmaster has pointed out to us: the differences in ages of the pupils; the difficulties of climate; and of typhoons and so forth; and also the short residence of parents in the Colony. But for my own part I anticipate rapid strides in this Colony as soon as the railway shall be opened, and that revival of trade which we all anticipate shall take place. I think the future of Kowloon will be assured, and I shall have to face the problem here, as elsewhere, of inadequate staff, just as we have had to discuss the



question of inadequate playgrounds in the past. I am very glad to be able to congratulate you on the fact that we have in a certain way, by the kindness of the Church Body, not that difficulty for the present. It is one to which I have, since I have been here, continually given attention, but the configuration of the ground surrounding this school is such that it seemed practically impossible to provide a playground until, on the suggestion of the Inspector of Schools, we were able to secure a plot of ground belonging to the adjoining church. The Inspector of Schools told us just now that he was somewhat disappointed that more patronage was not given to this school by British residents here. I confess that I, too, have been surprised at this. The fees of this school are very low, so much so that each pupil costs \$11½, and the total expense of the school to the Colony is \$5,432 a year. Every facility in buildings and so forth has been given, and I should like to see amongst British residents in this Colony greater appreciation of what has been done. More over I especially would like to say that they should pay attention to those two points which have been dwelt upon so strongly by the both Headmaster and the Inspector of Schools, that is to say that they should use their efforts to see that the children go punctually to school every day, and that they do not take unauthorised holidays owing to the excuses of many birthdays and so forth. The report of the Inspector of Schools, I think we may consider to be highly satisfactory. There is hardly one subject on which he has not been able to bestow unstinted praise. I offer you, Sir, my congratulations on the result of the past year, also to Mrs. Main who has been in charge of the school during the absence of the Headmaster on leave. I think you will both be very proud of the results achieved. Allusion was made by the Headmaster in his speech of the observance of Empire Day, or, as we call it in this Colony, Victoria Day. I share with Lord Meath, a strong desire that this day should be celebrated universally throughout the Empire, and should be made the occasion of teaching the children of the Empire the greatness of that Empire, the objects with which it has been founded, and the ideals which should inspire each member of it. I think we should endeavour to adapt that teaching to every child whatever its age might be. Last year we had a water picnic and I will be delighted to have the same this year unless someone can suggest to me another scheme that will give greater satisfaction. Empire Day is proclaimed by one of the Ordinances of this Colony to be a public holiday, and therefore I do not wish to devote it unduly to instruction, even though that instruction may be on matters concerning the Empire. I wish, therefore, that there should be some instruction in matters concerning the Empire during the term, so that when Empire Day comes round the children will be able to recall what it means and understand its significance. I see among the subjects which have been reported on by the Inspector of Schools that one is called "general knowledge," and I think that at periodical intervals, say once a week or once a fortnight, special instruction might be given on the subject of the empire. I do not mean by this merely the geography and size of the empire; I do not mean merely the glorious history by which it has been built up, nor yet the ethnology of the different peoples who compose it, their languages, their customs and their religions, but I mean also—what the Empire means to each one of us, to each British subject who calls himself a citizen of the Empire,—the duties of citizenship, and above all the duties of loyalty and patriotism which should animate every citizen of this great empire. If, Sir, you concur with me, and see your way to give this special instruction that I speak of occasionally under the head of general knowledge subjects, I shall be delighted to give a special prize next year to the girl or boy who does best in this subject (applause). The Headmaster told us that when this school was founded a special ideal that was prominent to the founders was the training of the character of the pupils, that girls and boys who had been taught here should grow up to be English ladies and gentlemen. That is the root of Empire. The Empire begins at home in the education of its children. The heroic deeds

which have won us this great empire were born of the courage and the devotion to duty which have been learned in English homes from English mothers. You girls some day perhaps will be mothers of English families, but in the meantime you can help to make happy homes by teaching your younger brothers and sisters what English girls and boys should be, and by setting them an example, and by helping your parents to make happy homes, and by bearing in mind those different points I have spoken of, loyalty and patriotism to the Empire. I shall have much pleasure in distributing the prizes to those who have earned them, and hope those who have not been successful this year will be successful next year. I wish you all very happy holidays until we meet again on Empire Day for either a picnic or whatever other form of pleasure or amusement may be suggested. (Applause).

HIS EXCELLENCY then distributed prizes to the successful pupils.

One of the senior pupils then presented the Governor with a handsome bouquet of flowers, and the proceedings closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

### INSTITUTION OF SHIPBUILDERS AND ENGINEERS.

#### ANNUAL DINNER.

The members of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong, to the number of over seventy sat down to dinner in the Hongkong Hotel on Feb. 26. The gathering was of a most enjoyable nature and its importance was reflected in the interesting speeches which were made in the course of the evening.

Mr. W. ROBERTSON made a genial chairman, the vice chairs being occupied by Messrs. T. Skinner and W. C. Jack respectively. Among those who supported the Chairman were Messrs Gray Scot, R. Mitchell, A. Bain, J. F. Miller, R. M. Dyer, etc..

Dinner over, the CHAIRMAN proposed the toast of "The King," which having been loyally honoured,

The CHAIRMAN submitted the toast of "Engineering and Shipbuilding in Hongkong." In doing so he briefly indicated the scope of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong, pointing out that it was incorporated eighteen years ago by a small but zealous body of engineers and shipbuilders, its objects being the improvement of the scientific knowledge of its members and the furthering of the interests of engineers and shipbuilders, and at the same time to provide social pleasures for its members. At that time its membership consisted of about a dozen: to-day it numbered about 300. The institution was in a flourishing condition financially, their position having been greatly improved through the exertions of their vice-President Mr. Skinner in getting the rental of their premises and taxes reduced by about \$150 per month. Prior to that their condition gave cause for anxiety and there were fears entertained that they might have to close the institution, but happily that contingency had been averted, and they might anticipate a career of continued usefulness. He appealed to local engineers to show a little of the zeal of the founders, two of whom were present in the persons of Mr. A. Bain and Mr. D. Macdonald, and went on to speak of the progress which engineering and shipbuilding had made in the colony during the last two decades, in proof of which they had only to look at the vast establishments guided chiefly by Europeans and equipped with the latest and most modern appliances. This placed Hongkong in a position to cope with anything in the way of repairs and he hoped the day was not far distant when we should see our excellently equipped yards building Pacific greyhounds as well as our friends on the Clyde or on the North East coast. What our enterprising neighbours in the islands in the North could do, so might we in Hongkong. To do so in this age of competition engineers and shipbuilders must be up-to-date and employ methods which were conducive to economy. The speaker then proceeded to indicate the advantages of internal combustion engines over the old steam engine, and concluded by asking the company to drink to the prosperity of engineering and shipbuilding. (applause.)

Mr. MITCHELL, with whose name the toast was coupled, made a happy reply in which he remarked that they were all aware that shipbuilding had been for many years one of the principal industries of the colony. It had grown considerably within his recollection and he had been almost 25 years in the colony. He remembered that among the first engines built here the indicated horse power was 300. Now it was nearer 4000. That illustrated the progress that had been made. He thought however it would be some time yet before they built Pacific liners here. In Hongkong there was no paternal government as in Japan, which had wisely stimulated its engineering and shipbuilding by means of subsidies, enabling them to compete with those on the Clyde and elsewhere. We did not want paternal government. We were able to do the work ourselves. He believed that we had the capabilities for building Pacific greyhounds, but the establishments here were more concerned with returns. They could build and engine ships but they could not show the returns which were desired and that was the main thing. He trusted that in the years to come a John Elder would arise in Hongkong and endow the prospective university with a chair for engineering and shipbuilding (applause). The British and especially the Scottish were great colonisers and he thought the native races whom they had taught would one day thank them for what they had done in teaching them so much of what the West had to give to the East.

The next toast was that of "The Press," proposed by Mr. Bridger and responded to. The Vice Chairman Mr. T. Skinner then invited the company to drink to "Kindred Societies and Visitors."

Mr. GRAY SCOTT replied. In doing so he said that as an engineer he hoped that in future the Institution would occupy a position in the colony more befitting the profession to which they belonged and the importance of the colony itself. They resided in one of the most important outposts of the British Empire, indeed it was the second shipping port in the world, at least he had the authority of his friend the Harbour Master for that statement (laughter). In conclusion he advocated a resumption of the reading of technical papers and said that thereby the institution would return to its original prosperity and would confer everlasting benefit upon all members of the profession in the East.

Mr. RICHARDSON proposed the health of the Chairman in complimentary terms and Mr. ROBERTSON suitably replied.

Songs were rendered in the course of the evening by Messrs Chapple, Hill, Bridger, and Nye.

### THE GOVERNOR OF MACAO.

#### OFFICIAL VISIT TO HONGKONG.

On Friday afternoon, in bleak, uninviting weather, His Excellency the Governor of Macao and his suite arrived in port in the Portuguese gunboat *Rio Lima*. Senhor Roccas is returning the recent visit of His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard to Macao, and although the weather conditions yesterday were unfavourable, there can be no doubt of the heartiness of the reception accorded our visitors. When the *Rio Lima* came to an anchor a salute from H.M.S. *Tamar* welcomed the distinguished guest, who was met by Captain Mitchell-Taylor, A.D.C. Mr. J. J. Leiria, Consul for Portugal, and Lieut. Beckwith, Assistant Harbour Master. His Excellency called upon Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton on H.M.S. *King Alfred* and also on Commodore Lyon on the *Tamar*. A guard of honour from the Rajputs was drawn up at the landing stage, and the bands of two regiments struck up the Portuguese National Anthem as His Excellency and suite landed at the wharf steps. After inspecting the guard of honour Senhor Roccas and his suite took chairs for Government House, where they dined with His Excellency the Governor and many prominent residents of the Colony who had been invited to meet the guests. His Excellency the Governor of Macao afterwards attended a reception given in his honour at Duart by Mr. Leiria, the Consul, and later a reception at the Lusitano Club and returned to Macao by the gunboat in the evening.



# HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

## ANNUAL EXHIBITION.

The annual two days' exhibition of flowers, fruit and vegetables promoted by the Hongkong Horticultural Society was opened on Feb. 26th at the Botanic Gardens, which were as usual placed at the disposal of the Society. Unfortunately the weather was most disagreeable and militated against the popularity of the event, though when the atmosphere cleared a little in the afternoon there was a fair attendance of the public. Their enjoyment was much enhanced by the pleasing selections discoursed by the band of the Rajputs under Bandmaster Coke.

It is satisfactory to record that the entries were quite up to the number of former years, a fact which indicates that the Society is attracting a few new exhibitors, and the general all round improvement noticeable in the display calls for congratulations to all concerned. The flowers were more numerous than before and table decorations came out strong, almost double the number of last year being shown.

The exhibition was well managed. Mr. L. Gibbs discharging the duties of secretary very satisfactorily, while Messrs. Barton, Tutchet, Ho Kom Tong, and Choa Leep Chee proved themselves hardworking members of the committee. It should be added the decisions of the judges gave every satisfaction. Those who undertook the duties of adjudication were: General exhibits, Messrs. J. Barton, S. T. Dunn, W. Craddock and W. J. Tutchet. Table decoration, Mrs. Pollock and Mrs. Turner. Gardens, Messrs. Dunn, Gompertz, Gibbs and Barton.

Judging was completed before tiffin and in the afternoon the exhibition was thrown open to the public. At five o'clock the ceremony of handing over the prizes was performed, by Mrs. MAY, who was rewarded at the close with hearty cheers.

Appended is the complete prize list:

### PLANT IN POTS—OPEN TO ALL EXCEPT PEAK GARDENS.

- Class 1. 6 pots of Annuals or plants raised from seed the same season—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.
- Class 2. 3 pots of Flowering plants other than annuals—1, Mr. Choa Leep Chee; 2, Miss Wallace.
- Class 3. 3 pots of Fan Palms (*Livistonia chinensis*)—1, Mr. D. Dorabjee; 2, Mrs. Bell.
- Class 4. 3 pots of Palms other than Fan Palms—1, Miss Wallace; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.
- Class 5. 3 pots of Rose—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mr. Choa Leep Chee.
- Class 6. 3 pots of Freesia—1, Mr. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. D. Dorabjee.
- Class 7. 3 pots of Geraniums—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mr. Choa Leep Chee.
- Class 8. 3 pots of Camellias—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tung; 2, Choa Leep Chee.
- Class 9. 3 pots of Dahlias—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.
- Class 10. 3 pots of *Phlox Drummondii*—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tong; 2, Sir Paul Chater.
- Class 11. 3 pots of Carnations and/or Picotees—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mr. D. Dorabjee.
- Class 12. 3 pots of Dianthus, other varieties excluding Carnation and Picotee—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.
- Class 13. 3 pots of Pansies—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Sir Paul Chater.
- Class 14. 3 pots of Violets—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.
- Class 15. 3 pots of Mignonette—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mrs. Jordan.
- Class 16. 3 pots of Nasturtium (Tall varieties)—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Ladies Recreation Club.
- Class 17. 3 pots of Nasturtium (dwarf varieties)—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.
- Class 18. 3 pots of Narcissus—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Choa Leep Chee.
- Class 19. 3 pots Azaleas—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tong; 2, Sir Paul Chater.
- Class 20. 3 pots Ferns, excluding Maiden Hair Ferns—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.
- Class 20 A. 3 pots Maiden Hair Ferns—Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Kwok Siu Lau.

Class 21. 3 pots of Chrysanthemum—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tong; 2, Mr. D. Dorabjee.

Class 22. 3 pots of Marguerite (*Chrysanthemum frutescens*)—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Ladies Recreation Club.

Class 23. 3 pots of Primula—1, Mr. Choa Leep Chee; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tong.

Class 24. 3 pots of Paeony—1, No exhibits.

Class 25. 3 pots of Salvia—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tong; 2, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 26. 3 pots of Chinese Orchids—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tong; 2, Mrs. Ho Tung.

PLANTS IN POTS—PEAK GARDENS ONLY.

Class 27. 6 pots of annuals or plants raised from seed the same season—1, Mrs. Gibbs; 2, Mrs. Hinds.

Class 28. 3 pots of flowering plants, other than annuals—1, Mrs. Hinds; 2, Mr. Barton.

Class 29. 3 pots of Geraniums—1, Mr. E. M. Hazeland; 2, Mr. Tomkins.

Class 30. 3 pots of Dahlias—1, Mr. Hazeland.

Class 31. 3 pots of Verbenas—1, Mr. Hazeland; 2, Mrs. Hinds.

Class 32. 3 pots of Mignonette—1, Mr. Hazeland; 2, Mrs. H. W. Slade.

Class 33. 3 pots of Nasturtium—1, Mrs. Gibbs; 2, Mr. Hazeland.

Class 34. 3 pots of Freesia—1, Mrs. Hinds; 2, Mr. Hazeland.

Class 35. 3 pots of Narcissus Tazetta, tall—1, Mr. Barton; 2, Mrs. Jones Hughes.

Class 36. 3 pots of Heliotrope—1, Mrs. Pollock; 2, Mrs. Tomkins.

Class 37. 3 pots of Ferns, distinct varieties—1, Hon. Basil Taylor.

Class 38. 3 pots of Fan Palms (*Livistonia chinensis*)—1, Mrs. Gibbs; 2, Mr. Bowley.

Class 39. 3 pots of Palms other than Fan Palms—No exhibits.

Class 40. 3 pots of French or African Marigolds—1, Mr. Hazeland; 2, Mrs. Hinds.

Class 41. 3 pots of Pot Marigolds (*Calendula officinalis*)—1, Mr. Hazeland; 2, Mrs. Slade.

VEGETABLES &c.—OPEN TO ALL EXCEPT PEAK GARDENS AND CHINESE MARKET GARDENS.

Class 42. Collection of vegetables (not less than 6 varieties). These must be staged in a box not larger than 4 ft. x 4 ft. x 3 inches deep—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tong; 2, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 43. 4 Heads of Celery—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mr. Dorabjee.

Class 44. 4 Cauliflowers or Broccoli—Mr. Dorabjee and Sir Paul Chater equal.

Class 45. 4 Cabbages—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mrs. Rodger.

Class 46. 5 Lettuces—1, Hon. Mr. Gresson; 2, Mr. Dorabjee.

Class 47. 3 Vegetable Marrows—1, 2, Hon. Mr. Gresson.

Class 48. 6 Beets—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Police Sgt. Kerr.

Class 49. 6 Carrots—1, Hon. Mr. Gresson; 2, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 50. 6 Turnips—1, Hon. Mr. Gresson; 2, Mrs. Rodger.

Class 51. 12 Onions—1, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 52. 12 Tomatoes—1, Sgt. Kerr; 2, Mrs. Rodger.

Class 53. 12 Potatoes—1, Mr. Dorabjee; 2, Sgt. Kerr.

Class 54. 25 Radishes—1, Mr. Dorabjee; 2, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 55. 25 Brussels Sprouts—1, Mrs. Rodger; 2, Mr. Dorabjee.

Class 56. 25 pods of Peas—1, Mr. Dorabjee; 2, Mrs. Rodger.

Class 57. 52 pods of French Beans—1, Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mr. Dorabjee.

Class 58. 2 Melons—No award.

Class 59. 4 Cucumbers—No award.

Class 60. Dish of Strawberries not less than 2 fruits—Sir Paul Chater and Mr. Dorabjee equal.

VEGETABLES &c.—PEAK GARDENS ONLY.

Class 61. Collection of vegetables, not less than 6 varieties. (These must be staged in a box not larger than 4 ft. x 4 ft. and 3 inches deep—1, Mr. Hazeland; 2, Mrs. Griffin.

Class 62. 4 Heads of Celery—1, Mr. Rouse; 2, Mrs. Jones Hughes.

Class 63. 4 Cauliflowers or Broccoli—1, Mr. Bowley; 2, Mrs. Hinds.

Class 64. Cabbages—1, Mrs. Wait; 2, Mr. Bowley.

Class 65. 6 Lettuces—1, Mrs. Fisher; 2, Mrs. Jones Hughes.

Class 66. 6 Beets—1, Mrs. Jones Hughes; 2, Mrs. Griffin.

Class 67. 6 Carrots—1, Mr. Rouse; 2, Mrs. Hinds.

Class 68. 6 Turnips—1, Mr. Tomkins; 2, Mrs. Griffin.

Class 69. 6 Onions—1, No award.

Class 70. 12 Tomatoes—No award.

Class 71. 25 Radishes—1, Mr. C. D. Wilkinson; 2, Hon. Mr. Basil Taylor.

Class 72. 25 pods of Peas—1, Mr. Wilkinson; 2, Mrs. Hinds.

Class 73. 25 pods of French Beans—1, Mrs. Hinds; 2, Mrs. Fisher.

Class 74. 2 Vegetable Marrows—1, Mr. Tomkins; 2, Mr. Barton.

Class 75. Dish of Strawberries, not less than 20 fruits—No award.

CUT FLOWERS, OPEN TO ALL EXCEPT CHINESE MARKET GARDENERS.

Class 76. 18 bunches of cut Flowers to be shown in 3 regulation stands of 6 bunches each, not less than 6 varieties in all, nor less than 2 varieties in the same stand—1, Mr. Choa Leep Chee; 2, Mrs. Makeham.

Class 77. 6 Roses—1, Mrs. Makeham; 2, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 78. 12 Carnations, and/or Picotees—1, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 79. 12 Pansies—Sir Paul Chater; 2, Mr. Choa Leep Chee.

Class 80. 4 Button hole bouquets, 2 Ladies' and 2 Gentlemen's, in glasses or vases—1, Mrs. A. Nicholson; 2, Mr. A. Nicholson.

Class 81. 1 Hand bouquet in vase—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. A. Nicholson.

Class 82. Bouquet of Wild Flowers for children not exceeding 15 years of age—1, Miss May Robinson; 2, The Misses May; 3, Masters Taylor.

CUT FLOWERS—PEAK GARDENS ONLY.

Class 83. 6 bunches of cut flowers, distinct varieties—1, Mrs. Turner; 2, Mr. Hazeland.

Class 84. 6 bunches Nasturtium, not less than 4 distinct colours—1, Mrs. Turner; 2, Mrs. Gibbs.

Class 85. 12 Pansies—1, Mrs. Turner; 2, Mr. Hazeland.

Class 86. 1 bunch Violets—1, Mr. Hazeland; 2, Misses May.

GENERAL EXHIBITS—OPEN TO ALL.

Class 87. Group of Flowering and Foliage plants, space limited to 12 feet by 10 feet—1, Hon. Mr. Gresson; 2, Mrs. Ho Tung; 3, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 88. Best arrangement of Cut Flowers and Foliage, according to the rules of Japanese Art—No exhibits.

Class 89. Best kept Private Garden at Peak—1, Mrs. Gibbs.

Class 90. Best kept Private Garden at Kowloon—1, Mr. Nicholson.

Class 91. Best kept Private Garden at Hongkong exclusive of the Peak—1, Mrs. Ho Tung.

Class 92. Best Table Decoration. (First day only)—1, Miss Bryer; 2, Mrs. Baiss.

Class 93. One Stamp or Rockwork—1, Mrs. Ho Tung; 2, Mr. Ho Kom Tung.

Class 94. Two Figure Plants—1, Mr. Ho Tung; 2, Sir Paul Chater.

Class 95. Collection of fruit, native or foreign, not less than six varieties, in a box not larger than 4 ft x 3 ft and 3 inches deep—1, Mr. Ho Kom Tong; 2, Mr. Dorabjee.

The Flower Show attracted a number of visitors on Saturday but the number was not as large as it would have been had the weather been more favourable. An attempt to introduce fruit this year brought out two exhibits, Mr. Ho Kom Tong getting the first prize and Mr. Dorabjee the second. Those who gave prizes or contributed to the prize fund were:—H.E. Sir Frederick Lugard, H.E. Major General Broadwood, Sir Paul Chater, Mr. D. Dorabjee, Mr. I. E. Tomkins, Mr. Choa Leep Chee, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, Mr. J. Barton and Mr. Turner.

Two men who were convicted of stealing nineteen hides were at the Magistracy on Thursday sentenced to six months' imprisonment each. Apparently they had climbed the roof of a latrine, got on to the roof of a house, walked over several others till they came to the yard where the hides were lying. One was lowered into the yard, a depth of fifty feet, but unfortunately for them the police arrived on the scene at this juncture. The man at the top bolted, leaving his companion, but he was arrested later.



## HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on Feb. 25th in the Council Chamber.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

H. E. MAJOR-GENERAL R. G. BROADWOOD, C.B., A.C.D., (General Officer Commanding).

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. W. REES DAVIES, K.C., (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G., (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY, (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. H. A. W. SLADE.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

### MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

### THE MONGKOKTSUI SHELTER

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table a report on the proposed boat shelter at Mongkoktsui by Mr. J. F. Boulton. In doing so, he said—I may say that in connection with the paper certain plans have been handed to each member which will help to elucidate the report. The report says that the boat shelter at Mongkoktsui, as designed in the colony, has been practically approved with some slight modifications which entail additional expense, and in order to keep the expenditure within the estimate which Your Excellency stipulated should not exceed, \$1,540,000, the boat shelter has been slightly reduced in area.

### FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table Financial minutes Nos. 1 to 9, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

### FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 21) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

### WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSIONS FUND.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—It will be within the recollection of hon. members that, when the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Bill, was under consideration of this Council at the end of last year certain correspondence was laid on the table, including a despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 28th December, 1907. The last paragraph of that despatch says "It is desirable that a valuation should be made in order that the surplus, if any, disclosed by it may be distributed among the beneficiaries of the fund in the shape of increases to the pensions. For this purpose an arbitrary rate of exchange must be assumed for the purposes of the valuation. The exchange value of the dollar has recently fallen from about 2/3 to below 1/10. As the value of the sterling liabilities must be greater than the value of the future sterling contributions, the higher the sterling value assumed for the dollar the more favourable to the fund will be the results of the valuation, and I should be prepared to allow the valuation to be carried out at a rate, not exceeding 2/3, which you and the Legislative Council may consider fair and reasonable." It has been found, Sir, that the average rate of exchange for the eleven years 1897 to 1907 inclusive, is just a fraction over 1/10. It is therefore considered that 1/10 would be a fair and reasonable rate to take. Accordingly, Sir, I beg to move the following resolution.—

Resolved that the valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund contemplated under Section 18 of

the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Ordinance 1908, shall be made at the rate of 1s. 10d. to the dollar.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the resolution was carried.

### QUESTION.

The Hon. Mr. POLLOCK asked the following question:—

Will the Government state what would be approximately the cost of putting up a fixed light to indicate the South-eastern entrance to the Capsuimun Pass?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In answer to the question I will state that the cost of course depends upon the nature of the light. A light similar to that at Mawan Island would cost \$700.

### CHINA'S NATIONAL BEREAVEMENT.

HIS EXCELLENCY—It will be within the recollection of the Council that some time ago we passed a resolution of condolence with the Chinese Government on the deaths of the Dowager Empress and the Emperor of China. The Government received from our Minister at Peking the very cordial thanks of the Chinese Government for the sympathy of this Council in the loss which China suffered by the deaths of its rulers. Unfortunately I cannot read the words of the reply as the paper has been mislaid. The general purport of it is, however, as I have stated.

### MERCHANT SHIPPING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance further to amend the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1889.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

### RAILWAY RECLAMATION ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise for public purposes the Reclamation of certain portions of the Crown foreshore and seabed situate in Hunghom Bay in the Colony of Hongkong and to validate such reclamation as has heretofore taken place.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

### MAGISTRATES ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Magistrate Ordinance 1890 and to effect certain other amendments in the Criminal Law.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

THE HON. DR. HO KAI—On account of section 8 of this Ordinance empowering the Governor-in-council to make certain regulations for the prohibition of spitting in public places, I conceive it to be my duty to record my dissent against the third reading of this Bill. I ask that a division may be taken.

HON. MR. WEI YUK—I second that.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Ince this Bill passed its second reading and was discussed in committee I have received a petition from a number of Chinese gentlemen and largely signed. It is for the most part a repetition of those arguments adduced in this Council by those members who were opposed to the Bill on account of the section to which the senior unofficial member has referred. The petition puts forward no new argument but reiterates those which have already been debated here. I therefore see no reason to change the opinion to which this Council was committed on the second reading and in committee. The petitioners say that I wish to promote hearty and willing co-operation with the Chinese instead of resorting to compulsion by law. They urged that a process of education should be instituted, a process of persuasion. That process, gentlemen, is one which we propose to adopt and towards which we have already taken steps, and I hope that no other process need ever be required. But I consider that in educating the Chinese upon this important question by issuing circulars, instructing lecturers, posting notices, and taking other means of education it is more likely that these efforts will be effective, if it is known by the people that it has as a last resort the power of enforcing them. I have assured the petitioners that, if regulations need to be framed in the future, they will be framed with care and moderation and that every effort shall be taken to avoid those contingencies which they fear, such as arbitrary arrest or undue interference

with the individual, and I hope that these methods of education and co-operation to which I have indicated we are devoting ourselves will have the effect desired without having recourse to the last resort.

On the vote being taken, HIS EXCELLENCY declared that the ayes had it, but Hon. Dr. Ho Kai called for a division.

The voting then resulted—For the third reading:—Hon. Mr. Hewett, Registrar-General, Director of Public Works, Colonial Treasurer, Attorney General, Colonial Secretary, and H. E. the General Officer Commanding. Against:—Hon. Mr. Slade, Hon. Mr. Gresson, Hon. Mr. Pollock, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk and Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

### JURY LIST.

The Council then considered the Jury List in camera.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding. The following votes were passed:—

#### HARBOUR MASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of four hundred and fifty Dollars (\$450) in aid of the vote, Harbour Master's Department, B.—Mercantile Marine Office, Personal Emoluments, Over-time Allowance.

#### POLICE AND PRISON DEPARTMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and eighty Dollars (\$180) in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Department, A.—Police, Other Charges, Language Study Allowance (Punjabi) to Probationer.

#### PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand five hundred and forty-eight dollars and forty cents (\$1,548.40) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, resuming and filling in Fish Pond at Tai Po.

#### MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two thousand four hundred Dollars (\$2,400) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, Grants in aid of Scientific Institutions, London School of Tropical Medicine, (£200).

#### HARBOUR BUOYS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of six hundred and fifty-four Dollars (\$654) in aid of the vote, Harbour Master's Department, Harbour Office, Special Expenditure, Buoys.

#### AUDIT DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand and ninety-two Dollars (\$1,092) in aid of vote, Audit Department, Other Charges, Share of Home Expenditure (£91).

#### SIGNALLING CONTRIBUTION.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of ten dollars and forty-seven cents (\$10.47) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, Telegraph Services, Contribution in connection with signalling messages etc., to Observatory, (£75).

#### BUILDINGS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and eighty Dollars (\$180) in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, Buildings, Staff Quarters, Tai Po, Water Service.

#### COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of forty-seven dollars (\$47) in aid of the vote, Colonial Secretary's Department and Legislature, Other Charges, Hansard Reports.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Salzmann are so well-known and popular in Singapore that the marriage last week of their younger daughter, Miss Nellie Salzmann, with Mr. John Griffiths, of Seremban, F.M.S., in accordance with the general fitness of things, created much more than the usual local interest in such happy events.

Vice-President Fairbanks intends to visit Manila when his term of office expires next month. Another well-known American publicist now on his way to Manila is Mr. V. Hamilton Lewis, a former Congressman who advocates the abandonment of the Philippines as being outside America's sphere and likely to involve the country in trouble with the Orient.



## THE PROPOSED BOAT-SHELTER AT MONGKOKTSUI.

The following report, by Mr. J. F. Boulton, on the proposed boat shelter at Mongkoktsui was yesterday laid before the Legislative Council by command of His Excellency the Governor:—

PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE,  
Hongkong, 1st February, 1909.

SIR,—I beg to submit the following report on my recent conference with Messrs. Coode Son and Matthews, the Consulting Engineers; with reference to the Proposed Shelter at Mongkoktsui, for the protection of small craft during typhoons. The object of the conference was to obtain an expression of opinion upon the suitability of the proposed shelter and the sufficiency of the proposed breakwater.

To enable the Consulting Engineers to pronounce upon the subject, I supplied them with the following materials and data:—Charts of Hongkong Harbour and surroundings, showing the relative positions of the anchorage and of the proposed shelter; the depth of the water in and adjoining the shelter; the maximum exposure which the breakwater would have to face and the positions of various sea walls which withstood the typhoon of 18th September 1906; and of others which were damaged or demolished by that typhoon. Detail Drawings of the sea walls referred to. Diagrams prepared from Kowloon Observatory, and records showing the daily direction, force, and duration of the wind during a series of years. Tabular statements showing the behaviour of wind during a number of severe typhoons, as registered at the Kowloon Observatory. Information concerning the character of the sea as developed by a typhoon; and concerning the character of the small craft which the shelter is designed to protect. Particulars about the levels and nature of the hard bottom overlying deposit on the site of the breakwater. A detail cross section of proposed breakwater, and a specification of the same. A schedule of prices of materials and labour. Information about the location and character of the quarries from which materials are to be drawn for constructing the breakwater; about local methods of work, etc., etc., etc.

The Consulting Engineers were of opinion that, as typhoons mostly begin from the north, east, the position of the shelter, being under the lee of the shore, was well chosen from the point of view of accessibility.

They considered that the breakwater, either with regard to its direction or the extent of the sheltering work contemplated, could not be improved.

But they were of opinion that, unless the widths of the entrances were contracted, the area effectively sheltered by the breakwater would be much and unnecessarily reduced.

The obvious way of contracting the width of the northern entrance was to continue the breakwater northward for some distance; but I had to point out that, if that were done, the contracted entrance would be blocked by the rocky shoal which projects southward from K.M.L. 32 (the Asiatic Petroleum Co.'s Oil Works). The best way, therefore, and ultimately the most economical way, of narrowing the entrance, would be to adhere to the position originally chosen for the north head of the breakwater, and extend the Oil Works point of land southward, by reclaiming the rocky shoal. I reckoned that the saleable value of the area reclaimed would go a long way towards defraying the cost of carrying out the reclamation.

The southern entrance could easily be narrowed by curving in the south end of the breakwater sharply towards the shore; but I suggested that it would be preferable to adhere to the original plan entirely, as far as the breakwater was concerned, and narrow the southern entrance by building out a jetty from the shore, in line with Sixth Street. The jetty would be very useful as a public landing place, and the reduced entrance would occupy a position where vessels could easily make it without having to hug the shore.

The Consulting Engineers approved of these suggestions and recommended that the widths of the entrances should be reduced accordingly—the northern entrance from 900 feet to 300 feet, and the southern one from 840 feet to 390 feet. They considered that these widths would be

quite sufficient for the traffic, and for the promotion of such a circulation of water within the sheltered area as would prevent stagnation and the serious deposit of silt. These opinions were based on the information which I was able to give regarding the nature of the traffic, and the strength and direction of the tidal currents.

With reference to the form of the breakwater, while approving of the general character of the original design, the Consulting Engineers were of opinion that certain alterations, which they considered of importance, should be made in the details. They recommended that the slopes should be flattened; that a wide berm of five-ton boulders should be substituted for the ramp of ten-ton concrete blocks; and that the upper portion of the outer slope, which was originally intended to be covered with concrete in mass, faced with granite pitching set in cement mortar, should simply be covered with pitching consisting of two ton concrete blocks set dry. The inner slope should be covered with dry stone pitching, in accordance with the original design; and the sizes and distribution of the materials in the rubble mound should, in the main, be in accordance with that design.

The Consulting Engineers entirely concurred in believing it to be necessary that a trench should be dredged in the mud for the purpose of reducing the lateral spreading of the foundation, as the rubble is deposited.

Having regard to the nature of the bottom on which the breakwater has to be constructed, and the character of the local labour and materials available, the Consulting Engineers had no doubt that a rubble mound structure, such as I proposed, was the proper and most suitable one to adopt. It is true that during the construction of such a breakwater its unfinished parts would be liable to damage from typhoons; but this unavoidable disadvantage would be more than compensated by the economy and convenience resulting from the adoption of a form of structure largely independent of skilled labour, and for which but comparatively little special plant and appliances would be required. The section recommended would also admit of the convenient rectification of such settlements of the work as would inevitably occur during construction and for some time after completion.

The complete scheme for the Boat-Shelter, as modified by the Consulting Engineers, was estimated to cost roughly \$273,000 in excess of the estimate for the original scheme. The excess was due to the additional works which were recommended to be carried out at the entrances, the cost of the breakwater as modified being estimated to be practically equal to the same as designed. But, as His Excellency the Governor had laid it down that no scheme could be accepted which would exceed in cost the amount of my estimate, namely \$1,540,000, and as the Consulting Engineers considered that the additional works were absolutely essential, and that no cheaper type of breakwater could be devised, it became necessary to reduce the cost of the scheme by curtailing the length of the breakwater, and the area of the shelter.

Accordingly the Consulting Engineers, in collaboration with myself, prepared a plan of a smaller scheme, which we roughly estimated could be carried out for the amount of the estimate. The alteration consists of shifting the southern entrance 80 feet northwards, thus shortening the breakwater, which is curved in to suit the new position of that entrance. Otherwise, the scheme remains as before. The saving resulting from the shortening of the breakwater will be about equal to the cost of the additional works at the entrances, including the reclamation.

The original scheme would have enclosed a total area of 194 acres of water, and according to the standard adopted by the Consulting Engineers, 166 acres of that area would have been effectively sheltered by the breakwater and additional works. The scheme as now modified will enclose a total area of 169 acres; and according to the same standard, 140 acres of that area will be effectively sheltered. In putting forward the larger scheme originally, with the wider entrances, I stated that 166 acres would be well sheltered. With the narrower entrances, the same area would be sheltered to a much higher degree.

In deciding which of the two schemes recommended by the Consulting Engineers should be

adopted, it would appear that only two matters require to be particularly considered, viz., the areas and costs of the schemes. In other respects the two schemes are equal.

The larger scheme was designed to include the greatest area of water which, having regard merely to the possibilities of the site, could be advantageously included. This area is much in excess of present requirements, and would probably not be fully utilized for a great many years to come.

The area of the smaller scheme is more than sufficient for the accommodation of the present number of small craft, and provides a reasonable margin for a future increase in the number.

With regard to the matter of cost, the smaller scheme has the advantage of being some \$273,000 cheaper than the other.

I may here point out that, owing to the natural configuration of the site, the cost of the Boat-Shelter could not be further materially reduced without very materially reducing its area.

I attach three sun-prints from drawings prepared by the Consulting Engineers, showing plans of the alternative schemes, and a cross section of the breakwater which is common to both.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

J. F. BOULTON,  
Second Assistant  
Director of Public Works.

To The Honourable,  
The Director of Public Works.

## EXCITEMENT ON THE PRAYA.

Quite a commotion was caused at Praya West on Feb. 17th when some cattle dealers endeavoured to ship a buffalo bull on a junk without a ring being attached to his nose. Twice the shippers endeavoured to persuade the animal to walk over a narrow plank to the junk, and twice the bull became nervous and fell into the harbour, being each time landed by some handy steps. This performance attracted a large crowd of Chinese who surrounded the footway to the junk. A third attempt was made to lead the buffalo across the plank, but this time the animal lost its temper and charged the mob. All the spectators managed to clear the bull's horns, but he continued his mad career with bent head until he came into contact with a lamp post and smashed one of his horns. The keepers recaptured him and again essayed to ship him. It then appeared as if they would be successful, but a lunkong came along and took both the shippers and the bull to the Central Police Station.

## "A COUNTRY GIRL."

The Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club were well advised to repeat their successful performances of "A Country Girl." They contributed so greatly to the public entertainment and were so highly appreciated that it was practically impossible to ignore the demand for another production. The first of the two was given on Friday the 19th in presence of a large audience whose enthusiasm was unbounded. In fact it might have been better if fewer concessions to the popular clamour had been accorded, as the effect of so many encores was to unduly prolong the performance to a late hour.

As before nothing but what is creditable can be said of the production. All the artists played their parts exceedingly well and the play went with quite a swing throughout. Geoffrey Hallener, the Rajah of Bhong, Barry, Varjorie Joy, Madame Sophie, and the Princess were all the same as before and repeated their successes of December, but Nan found a different exponent, Mrs. Gilby taking the place of Mrs. Stewart. She filled the role admirably, and danced and sang and talked and joked with all the buoyancy and humour of the lighthearted Devonshire lass. The choruses were well rendered and all the soloists were encored. Humorous references to the races made the production topical and still more amusing.

The performance was repeated on Saturday before another crowded and highly appreciative house.



## ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

The annual meeting of the Finance Committee of the Alice Memorial, Nethersole, Alice Memorial Maternity, and Ho Min Ling Hospitals was held at the Alice Memorial Hospital in Hollywood Road on the 19th inst. The Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving (Registrar-General) presided, and there were also present Dr. R. MacLean Gibson (secretary), Dr. J. C. Thompson, Rev. T. W. Pearce, Rev. H. R. Wells, Messrs. D. W. Craddock, A. Mackenzie, J. W. Bonnar, H. R. Phelps, S. W. Tso, Choa Leep Chee, Pun Yin Chun and Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

Mr. PHELPS, the treasurer, after explaining the various items contained in the balance sheet, said he regretted that he was compelled to resign his post. Shortly, he was going north on an annual tour, and on the termination of that tour he hoped to proceed on leave of absence. He regretted that he had been unable to give as much time as he would wish to the work of treasurer, but this was impossible owing to an increase of work in his own department. He felt grateful to Dr. Gibson for the able assistance that gentleman had given him during the time he acted as treasurer. For about five months the doctor did practically all the work for him. He suggested as his successor Mr. F. M. L. Crawford who, he was informed, had kindly consented to act for the ensuing year (applause).

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the Treasurer's report.

Mr. CHOA LEEP CHEE seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. PHELPS proposed the election of Mr. Crawford to the position of treasurer for the ensuing year.

The motion was seconded by Mr. MACKENZIE and carried unanimously.

Mr. BONNAR had much pleasure in recording a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring treasurer, and was sure that all regretted that he was going to leave them. He was sure that these present would wish him a pleasant time while on leave, and that they were prepared to thank him for the work he had done, also Mr. Wood who had audited the accounts.

Hon. Mr. IRVING said it had given him great pleasure to occupy—he would not say to fill—the chair on the present occasion; all the more so, as it allowed him to study with more attention than he otherwise should have done, the very clear statement of accounts, and the very clear statement which accompanied them, both of which were embodied in the report. It appeared to him, judging from the figures and the statement given that the hospitals, if not in altogether flourishing condition, were at any rate proceeding on their course in a way that could not be considered otherwise than satisfactory. He noticed that the figures for new patients and indoor patients, as well as the figures for total attendance, were very much as they were last year. The revenue also remained about the same, about \$10,000. These figures were in themselves not unsatisfactory, but it was obvious that a more permanent source of income was highly desirable. The part of the report which most particularly interested him was the maternity work. Speaking as Registrar General, this seemed to him a work of supreme importance. He had been appointed by Government chairman of the committee to report on the dumping practice, which was very prevalent in Hongkong. It pleased him to say, however, the habit had been very largely checked. But it had been made quite plain to him that a very large percentage of the bodies thus cast away were bodies of premature birth—children who were thrown into the streets by the ignorance of parents and the incompetence of midwives. The work done by the eight midwives of this hospital was beyond praise; there were something like one thousand cases in which they had attended women outside, besides 200 in hospital. He thought, however, that there was an enormous work still to be done in the direction of leading women to appreciate European midwifery, and he thought that this, as much as any, was a branch of work of the hospitals which deserved the fullest support of the Chinese. He felt that the Colony owed a debt of thanks in particular to Dr. Sebrée for the work she had done in this direction, and for other work of hers which had come to his notice in connection with the Po Leung Kuk (applause). He thought the committee

were unfortunate in losing the services of Mr. Phelps, but was sure that all would wish him a pleasant trip to England. Certain new instruments were needed at the hospitals, but in view of the work already done he was sure that it would not be necessary to do more than draw the attention of the Chinese and other fellow citizens to this fact.

The Rev. WELLS proposed the re-election of the Hon. Mr. BREWIN as chairman for the ensuing year.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI seconded the motion, and trusted that Mr. IRVING would continue to act until the Chairman's return to the Colony.

The motion was carried unanimously, and Mr. IRVING consented to act as chairman.

The Rev. T. W. PEARCE proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. IRVING for the good work he had done during the period he had acted as chairman.

Hon. Mr. IRVING bowed his acknowledgment of the kind remarks and the meeting ended.

The report of the Alice Memorial and Hospitals was as follows:—

During the year the medical work of the Hospitals has been well maintained. The total number of in-patients has been 1,068 compared with 1,058 in 1907. Of out-patients, new cases 5,135 compared with 16,163 and of out-patient attendances 28,288 compared with 28,285. The decrease in the number of out-patients, individual cases, is probably due chiefly to the epidemic of Bubonic Plague during the summer months when many families left the Colony. The total surgical dressings in the out-patient departments have been 9,050, nearly double the number dressed in 1906. The increase is chiefly in the number of women and children attending; two Chinese nurses, under the supervision of the Matron, dress the women and children at the Alice Memorial Hospital in a room reserved as a dressing room. While economy is practised, good materials, wool, bandages, etc., are provided, and bearing in mind that the majority of the in-patients also require surgical dressings, a large annual expenditure is required to meet the needs of these cases. In the eye-department there have been treated, 1,508 out-patients (new cases), and of that number 801 were cases of Trachoma, 216 in-patients and 159 eye operations performed. Special eye clinics are now held at the Alice Memorial Hospital on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m., at Nethersole Hospital on Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Yaumati Dispensary on Thursdays at 2.30 p.m. Outdoor visiting by the senior students under the supervision of the Superintendent will be begun in March, 1909. There are many patients unable to pay for medical attendance and too weak to attend at the out-patient room, who would be benefitted by being visited in their own homes. Patients residing in an area within the following limits, N. Praya, S. Aine Road, E. Wyndham Street and Pedder Street, W. Cleverly Street and Tank Lane, who send in their names before 10 a.m., will be visited the same day. The Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital was opened in June, 1904, and year by year there has been a steady increase in the number of patients treated. The Government provides maintenance for six pupil-midwives who, after completion of two years training in the Maternity Hospital, are examined and their names entered in the Government Register. Eight Chinese midwives have already been placed at various centres in the Colony, and working under the supervision of Dr. Sibree, have this year attended 1,033 cases. The total number of midwifery cases in the Maternity Hospital since the opening has been 419, cases attended at homes by pupil-midwives 233, and cases attended by the Government Midwives 1,825, making a total of 2,477 midwifery cases treated. It is very gratifying to those who by their generosity made such work possible, that the hospital and those trained there, have so quickly gained the confidence of the Chinese women. Miss Stewart has had five nurses in the Nethersole Hospital. The nurses chosen have all had a fair Chinese education, so that they are able to read elementary books on Physiology, and Midwifery. When training of nurses was begun fifteen years ago by the late Mr. Stevens, it was very difficult to obtain women willing to undertake such work but now we have many applicants as vacancies occur. Twenty-seven students

attended the College of Medicine and five received their Diplomas. Two of these, Mr. Wong Chung Yik and Mr. Sea Foon, have proceeded to Edinburgh University to continue their medical studies; both are men of ability and good character and we have every confidence that they will do credit to the Hongkong College of Medicine.

## FINANCIAL.

The income for the year has been, general donations, \$9,996.03, special donations \$1,055, Hospital Sunday \$676.74, and the total income (including interest on invested funds) \$4,442.56. The working expenses of the hospitals have been curtailed as much as possible, but a debit balance of \$1,351 remains to be cleared off during 1909. The hospitals require many new surgical instruments and fittings and we trust that we may soon be in a position to bring our surgical equipment up to the needs of modern surgery. We have specially to thank Mr. Chan Chek U and Mr. Chan Kung U for generously bearing the cost of installing electric light and fitting for the X Rays apparatus into all the hospitals, Dr. G. M. Harston for special donation, and Mrs. Gibson, Paisley, for the proceeds of a sale of work, to provide X Rays. The total amount necessary for an X Ray outfit is in hand and Dr. J. MacIntyre of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary is selecting the most recent apparatus obtainable. Many friends at Home and in the Colony have sent us gifts of bandages, materials for clothing, etc., which are acknowledged later in the report. We would also express our thanks to Hon. A. W. Brewin, Hon. E. A. Irving, Mr. Chau Siu Ki, Mr. H. R. Phelps, Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. David Wood, Auditor, for their willing help in financial matters; and to Drs. Jordan, Noble, Forsyth and Belilios for assistance in medical work.

The report on the Alice Memorial Hospital stated:—

Work in the Maternity Hospital during 1908 has been marked by a steady increase in numbers as may be seen from the figures. We attended in the year 1908 202 cases as against 126 in 1907. That the cases attended by us, outside should be fewer is not surprising, the staff of Government midwives having increased from 6 to 8. Patients on the other side of the harbour who used to send for us, now send for midwives recently settled on that side. The hospital also has become better known and patients are more willing to come in. Our patients are found amongst all classes of the community, including the boat people and several times we have been on board junks and sampans. The hospital serves as a training school for midwives and during the year we have had seven women as pupils. They attend regular classes and see all the cases in hospital. One passed the Government examination in June and is now in Yaumati and two others passed in November. As regards the evangelistic work our great difficulty is that patients are willing to stay such a very short time in hospital that they are able to learn very little. Where longer stay has been necessary the results have been much more cheering. One woman who was in hospital very ill for six weeks used to ask me to pray with her and seemed to understand much of the doctrine taught her. On leaving hospital she received further teaching and was baptised. Other women whom we have been able to keep for longer periods have been glad to read the books lent them and although we are unable to follow up many of them when they leave hospital, we trust some do carry away some knowledge of the good news. The Government midwives whose work has been superintended from the hospital have had a very busy year. 1033 cases attended as against 581 last year is an indication of the way their services are being appreciated. We hope that the few cases of puerperal fever in the Colony last year is one of the results of their work.

The Far East is to be visited this year by representatives of more than one Royal House in Europe. Besides the Queen Dowager of Italy who is to visit Japan, a tour in the Far East will be undertaken by Princess Helene of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glücksburg, a relative of the German Empress, and Prince Harold of Denmark who are to be married on May 1st at Fredenborg Castle, near Copenhagen.



## OUTPORT MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

## SHAMEEN (CANTON).

The annual general meeting of Landrenters and Ratepayers of the British Concession, Shameen, was held at H.B.M. Consulate General on Monday, February, 15th 1909, at 9.30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. P. H. King, R. Leissing, H. F. Dent, A. C. Oke, F. Harris, P. B. F. Carter, J. R. Greaves, H. Dent, H. S. Smith, E. A. Stanton, Davenport, J. I. M. Drummond, G. E. Huijgen, M. Steger, T. E. Griffith, A. Metzler, W. G. Saunders, W. A. Robertson, H. H. Fox, W. P. Turner, A. Tigges, U. Spalinger, A. H. V. Bohuszewicz, G. W. Appleby.

Mr. H. H. Fox, H.B.M. Acting Consul-General, occupied the Chair.

## THE QUALIFICATION FOR VOTES.

The notice convening the meeting and the minutes of the last annual meeting having been read, the CHAIRMAN explained that some uncertainty had arisen as to what constituted the qualification for an "occupier's" vote, and as legal opinion which had recently been taken was at variance with the views of the Council, the matter would be laid before the Crown Advocate at Shanghai.

Mr. KING suggested that a reference to the Crown Advocate would be a fitting opportunity to open the whole question of tenants' votes.

## THE ESTIMATES.

The CHAIRMAN having read the Report of the Council for 1908 together with the Accounts and the Estimates for 1909, suggested that observations should be made on the items of the Report.

Mr. KING asked on what conditions the 15-year Tontine Life Insurance Policy in favour of Superintendent Brimble had been taken out.

Mr. GRIFFITH explained that, though it was in favour of Superintendent Brimble, it was assigned to the Council.

Mr. KING expressed his gratification at the promise of additional pathways on the Concession and hoped that an effort would be made to preserve the grass plots.

An opinion having been expressed on the advisability of increasing the pay of the caretaker of the cemetery with a view to its better upkeep, Mr. BENT called the Council's attention to the serious silting up of the river bed near the boathouse. The matter had been brought before the notice of the two preceding Councils and he wished to know if any steps had been taken with regard to it.

Mr. GRIFFITH informed the meeting that at the beginning of 1908 he had spoken to both the Commissioner of Customs and the Harbour Master on the subject and an effort had been made to get dredgers on the spot to remove some of the deposit, but without success. The difficulty was that the area in question lay largely outside the 100-feet limit and nothing could therefore be done without the co-operation of the Customs Authorities. The question had already been referred by the Harbour Master to the Coast Inspector's Office in Shanghai, but nothing had been done.

Mr. KING having explained that the Harbour Authorities were extremely anxious to co-operate in dealing with the matter and having expressed the opinion that the difficulty would be partially obviated by the extension of the bunding on the other side of the creek, Mr. Fox stated that he agreed with these views and that when it could be ascertained when the completion of the Wongsha bund was likely to take place, the question of bringing the Shameen bund in line with it would be laid before the Office of Works.

Mr. STANTON then proposed and Mr. U. SPALINGER seconded that the Report of the Council and the Accounts be passed, and the motion was carried *nem con*.

## THE NEW BYE-LAWS

Referring to the first of the proposed new bye-laws, namely that in regard to "Death Certificates," viz—"That in event of death occurring on the Concession, notice must be immediately sent to the Superintendent of Police, who shall also be furnished with a certificate showing the cause of death from a duly qualified medical practitioner. No permission for burial in the Cemetery shall be granted before a certificate of death is forthcoming from a duly qualified medical practitioner,"

Mr. Fox stated that he had taken the opportunity of the visits of H.B.M. Judge to Canton to consult him on the bye-law, with the result that certain amendments in the original proposal had been suggested.

The amended byelaw now reads as follows:—"In the event of a death occurring on the Concession, notice must immediately be sent to the Superintendent of Police, who, in the case of the death of a foreigner shall also be furnished with a certificate of the cause of death from a duly qualified medical practitioner. Permission for burial in the Cemetery shall not be granted until such a certificate or an order of the competent authority has been produced."

After discussion it was proposed by Mr. GRIFFITH and seconded by Mr. STANTON, that the bye-law in its amended form be passed.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Fox then read the second proposed bye-law:—

"Every medical practitioner attending on, or called in to visit, any patient suffering from infectious disease, including small-pox, cholera, plague, diphtheria, membranous croup, erysipelas, scarlatina, typhoid, enteric, continued or puerperal fevers, dysentery, all forms of meningitis or other disease to which the bye-law has been applied by the Council shall forthwith, on becoming aware that the patient is suffering from any of the above named infectious or preventable diseases, to which the bye-law applies, send a certificate giving all particulars to the Council's Officer of Health, under a penalty of \$50. No Chinese suffering from infectious or contagious diseases, shall be allowed on the Concession, and any householder having any such case within his compound and failing to notify the same to the Council's Officer of Health, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$50 for each offence."

The CHAIRMAN stated that, in order to give more latitude to the Council in cases where there had been only a technical breach of the bye-law, His Majesty's Judge had suggested that the words "under a penalty of \$50" be substituted by the words "under a penalty not exceeding \$50."

Mr. GRIFFITH proposed that in that case the amount of the maximum penalty be altered from \$50 to \$100 and this being seconded by Mr. ROBERTSON and put before the meeting, was carried unanimously.

Mr. KING having questioned the power of the Council to classify disease and having objected to the word "preventable" as not being found in bye-laws of a similar nature at home, a discussion arose as the result of which Mr. KING moved, and Mr. STEGER seconded, that the word "preventable" be deleted from the proposed bye-law.

This amendment was, however, lost.

Mr. STANTON then proposed that the bye-law as amended be carried.

This was seconded by Mr. BENT, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Fox then read a nomination which he had received for the election of a Council for the ensuing year.

The proposed names were Messrs. O. F. R. Carter, T. E. Griffith, N. R. Robertson, E. A. Stanton, and M. Steger.

No other nomination having been received Mr. Fox asked the meeting to confirm this nomination.

Carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the outgoing Council, the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the meeting.

## KULANGSU (AMOY).

A meeting of the Council was held at the Board Room, on the 26th January 1909.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), J. S. Fenwick, W. Kruse, Lim Kui Siong, Okuyama, W. Wilson, A. H. Wilzer, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence between the Council and Mr. Lim Kui Siong was read concerning a building permit, and the Secretary was instructed that if Mr. Lim Kui Siong fails to apply for a permit within seven days, and fails to submit plans in accordance with Bye-law 13, he is to be proceeded against in the ordinary way.

The Superintendent of Police reported the following cases as having been dealt with in the Mixed Court since the last meeting, the Court being closed under the seal from 12th January to 9th February:—Summonses:—Assault 2; cruelty to a child 1; debt 1.—Summary Arrests.—Being abroad after 12 midnight without a light 3.

## EXECUTION AT VICTORIA GAOL.

Chan Shun, one of the six men sentenced to death on January 28th for the murder of their former employer at Des Voeux Road, was executed at Victoria Gaol on the 22nd inst. at five o'clock. In the afternoon Mr. J. H. Kemp conducted to the Magistracy the usual inquiry into the cause of death. The Jury was composed of Messrs. H. V. Wilkinson, Owen E. Owen and Wilhelm Schmidt.

E. J. Pierpont, chief warder at Victoria Gaol, stated that the deceased was received into prison on January 28th last under sentence of death, which sentence was duly carried out at one minute past five on Monday morning. There were present at the execution Mr. Craig, superintendent of Victoria Gaol, Dr. Moore, medical officer, witness and the usual escort of officers. He produced the warrant for the execution.

Dr. Moore, medical officer of Victoria Gaol, said he was present at the execution and in his opinion death was instantaneous. He made a post-mortem examination of the body and found the neck was dislocated and the spinal cord was crushed. Death was due to dislocation of the neck.

The jury found the cause of death to be as stated and that the sentence of death had been duly carried out.

Though no official announcement has been made, it may be assumed that the five other men have had their sentences commuted.

## A CHINESE GIRL'S SUICIDE.

Mr. J. H. Kemp conducted an inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Ko Se Heung, a Chinese female, 14 years of age, who committed suicide by hanging in a house in Des Voeux Road.

Dr. Hunter, in charge of the mortuary, spoke to the body being brought into the mortuary on February 4th and to making a post mortem examination, the result of which showed that death was due to asphyxiation from hanging.

His Worship—The evidence is that deceased stood on a stool, tied a string round her neck and jumped off the stool, breaking the string? Is that consistent?—Yes.

You can't say how long it would be necessary for the string to be round her neck before death ensued?—No, a very short time.

When the witnesses found her she was breathing?—She might have been asphyxiated before the string broke.

There were no other marks of violence?—No.

I suppose while hanging there would have been convulsive movements of the limbs?—Yes, and that would have broken the cord.

Other witnesses were called who testified to deceased being found on the floor of the house, dying shortly afterwards.

The inquiry was closed.

## SEQUEL TO A WEST RIVER COLLISION.

Judgment had been given by Acting Chief Justice Bourne of the Supreme Court for China and Korea, sitting in the Provincial Court at Canton, in the action heard before him in which the owners of the junk *Man Cheong* claimed \$60,000 from the China Steam Navigation Company for the loss of their boat and cargo by collision with the defendants' steamer *Nanchang* in the West River on the 12th November. Mr. Loftus Jones from Shanghai appeared for the plaintiffs on the hearing of the case at Canton on the 8th, 9th, and 10th instant and Mr. Gedge of the firm of Johnson, Stokes and Master appeared for the defendants. Judgment was delivered in Shanghai on Thursday in favour of the defendants. Captain Archibald sat with the Chief Justice as nautical assessor.



## SUPREME COURT.

Monday, February 22nd.

## IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS  
PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

## BIG LIST OF CASES.

The February Criminal Sessions opened yesterday, the list containing eleven cases, nine of which were for armed robbery.

## BREAKING AND ENTERING.

Chan Chi was indicted on the charge of breaking and entering the dwelling of one Indar Singh, at 18, Temple Street, Yaumati.

Prisoner admitted entering the house, but denied going there with intent to commit armed robbery.

The Attorney-General, who was instructed by Mr. Denny, Jun., from the office of the Crown Solicitor, informed his Lordship that on the day of the robbery the two inmates left the house at about seven p.m. One of the men returned at nine o'clock, to find the door, which had been securely fastened, broken open, and the prisoner and two other men looting the house. One of the Indians immediately seized the prisoner, who made several cuts on him with a knife, which did not appear to be of a serious character. The other two men escaped, but the Indian retained the prisoner and took him to the police station where certain of the stolen property was found in his possession.

His Lordship—What is the special evidence with regard to the armed robbery?

The Attorney-General—The prisoner is charged with breaking and entering.

His Lordship passed sentence of three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

## CUTTING AND WOUNDING.

Leung Tsai was arraigned on a charge of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty and the following jurors were called: Messrs. J. Ramsay (foreman), F. P. da V. Soares, H. E. Scriven, L. A. Rose, A. Ritchie, H. W. Schierenberg and H. B. Davidson.

The Attorney-General told the jurors the prisoner was before the Court on a charge of maliciously wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. The affair, apparently, was the result of some petty quarrel and took place on board the steamer *Kum Sang*. The prosecutor was a deck boy on that ship, while defendant was a seaman. The boy would state that on the day in question he had a conversation with the prisoner in relation to twenty cents which the prisoner owed him. The latter retorted that he had already paid the money at Calcutta. In the dispute which followed the prisoner attacked prosecutor with a knife and stabbed him several times. This story of the boy would be corroborated by two other witnesses. After inflicting these wounds the prisoner let himself down by a rope on to a sampan and was about to leave when the sampan was called back by the third officer and the prisoner taken into custody. Regarding the wounds, the doctor would state that prosecutor was in a very critical condition from loss of blood for a few hours. Before the Magistrate the prisoner made practically an admission of the charge, but alleged that the prosecutor first attacked him with an iron bar.

His Lordship remarked that the witnesses who had left by the steamer had given their recognizances.

The Attorney-General said he understood that the agents had communicated with the magistrate, and the magistrate said he did not think it was necessary for them to stop.

His Lordship—I think the magistrate has made a mistake.

The Attorney-General—It appears in the original depositions at the outset that the prisoner pleaded guilty.

His Lordship said the magistrate was *functus officio* after he had made the inquiry, therefore he would not estreat the recognizance.

The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty, and prisoner was sentenced to three years' hard labour.

## ARMED ROBBERY.

Han Tak and Ho Kwong were indicted on a charge of armed robbery at Yaumati on January 2nd. The same jurors sat as in the previous case.

The first prisoner pleaded guilty, but said he only got \$4 of the proceeds.

The second man tendered a similar plea, remarking that his share of the proceeds was between \$3 and \$4.

The Attorney-General—This is really a bad case, and I think it right to tell the facts to your Lordship.

His Lordship—It is not armed robbery, is it?

The Attorney-General—Yes, my Lord. Proceeding to give the facts of the case, the Attorney-General said the prisoners were in company of four other men who had not been arrested. The woman who lived in the house was there alone with her small boy when two men called and started talking to her about renting a house. Then they pushed her inside, threatened her with knives, and tied her hands. She stated that one tied her hands and both asked for money. Four other men then entered the house, being shortly afterwards followed by two amahs. These women were seized and gagged, then the men ransacked the place at their pleasure and got away. The witnesses were tied together with wire.

His Lordship—Is there any evidence that these two men were armed?

The Attorney-General—There is no particular evidence that these two were. The witnesses say that all the men were armed.

His Lordship—According to the Ordinance the persons convicted must be proved to have been armed.

The Attorney-General said his reason for framing the indictment under section 2 and not under section 1 was that it was capable of proof of acts of violence under section 2, and also of proving that there were two or more persons.

His Lordship sentenced each of the accused to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive a flogging of 24 strokes.

## A BORDER CASE.

The same jurors heard the charge of armed robbery preferred against Li Kam Fuk, the prisoner pleading not guilty.

The Attorney-General informed the jury that this affair took place at Tsuikong village at about midnight on January 14th. The prosecutor, a woman, was in the house with a little girl of seven. She said her house was broken into and she was violently assaulted by four men, who tore her silver bangles off her arms. At the time, prosecutor says, prisoner was standing at the door keeping watch. The evidence of the prosecution was based on the statement of the woman herself, but the prisoner, when charged by the police, in his statement admitted that he stood at the door and watched. It was right that the Attorney-General should tell the jurors that the accused made a long statement before the magistrate in which he denied his former statement, and accused the police of causing him to make that statement by force. This the sergeant accused denied.

The jury, without retiring, found the prisoner guilty.

His Lordship—You are sentenced to five years' hard labour. You look a poor sort of creature, and I don't know that you can stand much flogging, but you must have twelve strokes.

THE ARMED ROBBERY IN COCHRANE STREET.  
Chan Lai was arraigned on the charge of committing armed robbery with certain persons not in custody at 16, Cochrane Street, on the 5th instant.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and his case was heard by the same jurors.

The Attorney-General informed the Court and jury that this case of armed robbery took place at 16, Cochrane Street, in the city, on the 5th of the present month. The case was quite a simple one: the prisoner, in company with another man, went to the house mentioned, which was a place where there was a coolies' mess. This was at 11.30 in the morning, when all the coolies were out with the exception of the cook. He would state that two men entered, caught hold of him, tied his hands and legs and gagged him, while, as usual a third man was watching at the door. The robbers then took all they could discover in the place and departed. As soon as they got

out, prosecutor apparently freed his legs, and with his hands tied behind went out and gave chase. He saw the first man running and carrying a box. There was a policeman in the vicinity, and No. 1 dropped the box and ran, but was arrested. It appeared an extremely clear case, and the prisoner in his statement admitted carrying the box, but stated that he had been asked by other people to do so.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the accused was sentenced to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive a flogging of 24 strokes.

## THE ROBBERY IN YAUMATI BAY.

Hung Tik Un and U Pang Chau appeared to answer a charge of armed robbery in Yaumati Bay near Mongkok on January 13th, and both defendants pleaded guilty, the first defendant stating that he committed the crime because the prosecutor owed him money.

The Attorney-General stated this was precisely the position No. 1 took up before the Magistrate. Apparently he asserted some sort of claim or right because of the fact that he was formerly a partner in the junk. Prosecutor denied that he had any sort of claim in it whatever.

His Lordship—What are the facts?

The Attorney-General said this offence was committed at about 9.30 o'clock on the 13th January while the junk was lying off Mongkok. The master of the junk said that the first prisoner formerly had a small share in the craft, but at the time of the robbery he had no interest whatever; all his claim had been satisfied. Prosecutor was away from the junk on the day in question, and when he returned he found that his vessel had been boarded by thieves and a box containing \$140 in subsidiary coin and a quantity of clothing stolen. Some of the stolen property was subsequently discovered, having been pawned by the second defendant, and this property was identified by prosecutor. As to the robbery, there were three witnesses who spoke definitely as to three men going on board, two armed with knives and the other with a firearm. A fourth man was lying alongside. Those on board were warned not to make any noise, shoved into the hold, and the articles mentioned stolen.

His Lordship—There is no question about this being an armed robbery?

The Attorney-General—No, they have pleaded guilty.

His Lordship, after telling the first defendant that he was not sure whether his defence did not make his offence worse, sentenced each prisoner to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive 24 strokes of the birch.

The Chief Justice then thanked the jurors empanelled, and told them that they need not return again until to-morrow (Wednesday).

Tuesday, February 23rd.

## IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT  
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

## ARMED ROBBERY AND KIDNAPPING.

Shek Yau Kwai was indicted on charges of armed robbery and kidnapping at Kato Island on January 11th.

A accused entered a plea of not guilty, and the following jury was empanelled:—E. W. White (foreman), S. H. Dutton, J. J. von West, G. R. Edwards, L. E. Lammert, J. McCubbin and H. S. Hendry.

The Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C., instructed by Mr. Denny Jr., from the office of the Crown Solicitor, appeared for the prosecution, prisoner being undefended.

The Attorney-General informed the Court and jury that this affair took place on the sea near Kato Island at Mirs Bay on January 11th. The prosecutor lived on the boat with his wife, and they had on board their own two girls and a boy who was alleged by the prisoner to be his son. This child had been apparently sold to the prosecutor, not an unusual thing for Chinese to do where a family was composed of daughters and they wished to adopt a son. On the night of January 11th, prosecutor and his family who were asleep on their boat, were awakened by a man coming on board. Prosecutor asked what was the matter, and was told to keep quiet or he



would be shot to death. The boatman was then seized, and a second man who boarded the craft seized his wife and they were both bound. The robbers then pulled up the anchor and sailed the boat to Wantungwah. There a third man went on board whom they recognised as the prisoner. The husband, wife and three children were first confined in the cabin. Afterwards the three children were taken out of the cabin. The robbers then proceeded to clear the boat of its possessions and left, taking the three children with them. Regarding the charge of kidnapping, the Crown only alleged the kidnapping of the two girls, as the prisoner alleged the boy was his son. The little girl of nine gave valuable evidence, as she says the prisoner was the man who took her ashore at Hongkong. The accused was arrested at Shaukiwan by an inspector of police, and owing to information received he found the children here. When charged at the station the prisoner made a statement denying that he had robbed. He said his only object in going on board was to carry away his own son, but that statement did not carry much importance having regard to the fact that he carried away the other two children as well.

After prosecutor had given his evidence the accused asked—

Are you willing to come before the shrine and swear that I committed armed robbery?

The witness replied—I dare.

Prosecutor's wife then gave evidence and was questioned by the accused:

Didn't you and your husband between you steal 33 nets last year?—No, it is false. My husband and myself earn our livelihood by fishing, not by stealing.

Didn't you say you would give me one of your daughters in lieu of the security I stood for you for certain nets?—No, You are a thief; you stole my daughter.

Did you not give your daughter up as a pledge, and because you could not redeem her you wanted to keep my son?—It is not so. I know nothing whatever about this. The only thing I do know is that you committed this armed robbery.

The next witness to be called was a girl, nine years of age, and his Lordship asked if she was old enough to be sworn.

The Attorney-General referred him to the Ordinance, which stated that any child over seven could give evidence.

His Lordship—Do you think you will get a just impression of the facts from this witness?

The Attorney-General—Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings we obtain the truth.

His Lordship—That was in the old days.

After the witness had given her evidence his Lordship asked—Are you going to put the suckling of three years in the box?

The Attorney-General—No, my Lord. I'll limit myself to the babe, I think.

A Chinese woman deposed that the prisoner called on her and offered to make her a present of a child; whom he said was his daughter. She had no children and he would make her a present of the girl for \$30. Witness said—I don't know whether this child will cry or not, or whether it will remain. Accused told her she had better keep the child for a night, to see whether it would cry.

The Attorney-General—What time did the police call at your house?

Witness—I am not sure, as I had no sleep the night before, owing to the continuous crying of the child.

For the defence prisoner called his master, Lai Fo Po, who said accused was not on board his boat on January 12th. He gave him leave on the 10th.

Accused—Were you not breaming on the 10th?—You are lying; I was not breaming.

The son of the last witness was called to the stand, and examined by accused:—

When I asked for leave didn't you ask me where I was going, and didn't I say I was going nowhere?—No.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty on the three counts and his Lordship sentenced the accused to five years' imprisonment with hard labour and 24 strokes of the birch.

#### RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY.

Chan Lam was arraigned on a charge of receiving stolen property at Lyemun Village on February 2nd, pleaded not guilty, and his case was heard by the same jurors.

The Attorney-General said the prisoner in this case was charged with being in possession of stolen property. The law required that if a man was found in possession of stolen property he should give some reasonable account as to how he became possessed of it. In what was known as recent possession, the burden of proof was placed on the man to show that he became properly possessed of it.

His Lordship—That is not quite the law, I think.

The Attorney-General—I will leave it to your Lordship.

His Lordship—That is French law; not English.

The Attorney-General remarked that he was putting it generally. It would be proved that a robbery took place at Autaukok on January 22nd at two in the morning, a house in which several families lived being plundered by masked robbers. The prisoner was arrested by the police at midnight on February 2nd, and, when charged, stated that another man had told him to carry the stolen goods. Some of the stolen property was found in the house of a woman who would say the prisoner took it there on the same night as the robbery took place. When he was arrested he took the police to a house in Lyemun Village and asked for certain bundles which were handed to him, and which were found to contain property identified as stolen.

The Attorney-General asked his Lordship to tell him in what material respect he had misstated the law.

His Lordship The law does not absolutely state that the burden of proof is on the prisoner. It is for the Crown to prove the robbery, and for the prisoner to show how he came into possession of the stolen property.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, and his Lordship sentenced him to imprisonment for two years with hard labour.

#### THE CHEUNGSHAWAN ARMED ROBBERY.

Lai Yau, Lai Hing, Ho Shui Ching, Leung Ching and Cheung Kwai were placed before the Court on seven charges of armed robbery, and on one charge of receiving. The first and second prisoners pleaded guilty on the first count, and the other three pleaded not guilty on all the counts. The same jurors heard the case.

The Attorney-General told the jurors that the five men before them were at the bar on a series of counts charging them with robbery with violence, while the last count on the indictment charged them with being in receipt of stolen property. The reason the Crown made the indictment so long was that although all the larcenies formed part of one transaction it had been found desirable to allege the various thefts from the various parties concerned. He thought the jurors would be of opinion that this was really a bad case, and he thought the evidence would be considered reliable. The five prisoners, together with others, among whom was a man named Chan Hung, went to the house on the night in question. Chan Hung had turned what was known as King's evidence, and he would appear in the witness box and give evidence which would be corroborated. Generally speaking, when an informer came forward and gave evidence, the jury were advised to see that there was ample corroboration of his story before they convicted. In this case he did not think jurors would have any doubt that his story was materially corroborated. The evidence for the prosecution was that the accused broke into a building divided into three houses and situated at Cheungshawan on January 25th at two o'clock in the morning. Different parts of the house were occupied by the prosecutor, his son and his nephew. The prisoners carried arms, knives, choppers, revolvers and torches, created great terror amongst the inhabitants, and practically looted the whole place. Prosecutor would say that he went downstairs when he heard the noise, was met by the robbers, and one of the men knocked him on the head with a revolver and told him to keep quiet. He did so, and fortunately for him they left him below while they went upstairs. Prosecutor proceeded to upstairs and reported the occurrence to the police. On the information of the informer, who was arrested, the police went to the village of Kowloontsai, where all the prisoners were arrested coming out of the same house. In this particular house the police found nearly all the stolen property, also a large number of instruments used in the

burglar's trade. Apart from the informer, there would be evidence of identity of all the men.

Witnesses were called and hearing adjourned.

Wednesday, February 24th.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### THE CHEUNGSHAWAN ARMED ROBBERY.

The case in which Lai Yau, Lai Hing, Ho Shui Ching, Leung Ching and Cheung Kwai were indicted on seven counts of armed robbery and one count of receiving stolen property at Cheungshawan was concluded. The jury empanelled comprised Messrs. E. W. White (foreman), S. H. Dutton, J. J. von West, C. R. Edwards, L. E. Lammert, J. McCubbin and S. H. Hendry.

On Tuesday the first and second accused pleaded guilty, and on the conclusion of the evidence the jury found the third, fourth and fifth defendants guilty on all counts.

His Lordship sentenced each of the accused to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and ordered the second, third, fourth and fifth to receive 24 lashes. The first, on account of his age, was to receive only twelve lashes.

#### THE ARMED ROBBERY AT YAUMATI.

Li Yau, Wah, Lai Kau and Lam Lai were arraigned on a charge of armed robbery at Yaumati on January 21st.

Prisoners pleaded not guilty, and the following jurors were called:—Messrs. H. Graig (foreman), S. Bolton, P. D. Sutherland, E. J. Chapman, W. V. Ferry, O. R. Chunyut and L. F. Campbell.

The Attorney-General (Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C.) told the jurors that this was another case of armed robbery. The prisoners were charged with breaking into a shop and stealing monies to the extent of \$4,300. This was the affair in which the unfortunate police sergeant recently lost his life, but the man who shot him was also killed during the arrest. This, however, had nothing to do with the circumstances of the present case. So far as the prisoners were concerned the facts were altogether distinct in anything affecting that. The robbery took place on January 21st at 43, Kennedy Street, Yaumati, and the case for the prosecution was that the prisoners, in company with other men, entered the house between ten and eleven p.m. on the date mentioned. The prisoners were alleged to have entered the shop, while the others stood outside. All the prisoners, when they entered, were said to have been armed with revolvers which they pointed at the inmates. Then they tied them together, threatened them, and proceeded to loot the shop. The key of the safe was obtained and the prisoners took out the banknotes and coins and then decamped. The master of the shop, who was tied up, cut his queue, ran out into the street and raised the hue and cry. One of the prisoners was immediately arrested by an excise officer. While he was running to escape, he threw some money away but when arrested a chisel was found on him. Three of the inmates of the shop all definitely identified the first man, and, when charged by the police, he practically admitted his guilt. As regards the second prisoner, he was identified by a man who was originally charged with the accused, but as no evidence against this man was obtainable when he went before the magistrate, he was discharged. There was also some evidence of identification on the part of one of the inmates, but not of a very satisfactory nature. Regarding the third and fourth, there was no evidence to identify them with the robbery apart from the statement of the man who was originally charged.

His Lordship—Is that King's evidence?

The Attorney-General—No, my Lord.

In conclusion the Attorney-General remarked that the case appeared to be absolutely conclusive against the first man. It would be for the jury to say whether they were satisfied with the evidence against the other prisoners.

His Lordship discharged the third and fourth prisoners, and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty against the first and second accused. The first man was sentenced to seven years'



imprisonment with hard labour, and the second to five years' while both were ordered a whipping of 24 lashes.

His Lordship further ordered the restitution of the stolen property.

Thursday, February 25th.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

#### THE PEAK MURDER APPEAL.

Judgment on the appeal against the finding of the jury in the Peak murder case on the ground that the evidence had not been translated to the prisoners was delivered by the Full Court. Mr. H. G. Calthrop, instructed by Mr. R. D. Atkinson (of Messrs Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the prisoners, the Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C., Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, appearing as respondent.

The Chief Justice said—As the procedure under section 78 of No. 9 of 1899 which provided what is the Court of Crown Cases Reserved for the Colony does not require a case to be stated, it is necessary for me to state the circumstances in which the question which has been reserved for the opinion of the Court arose. Three men, Kwok Leung, Li Shek Shun and Hung Loi were charged with the murder of Ku Tung. They were Hoklo men. Some of the evidence for the Crown was given in English, and some in Punti. The prisoners were defended by Mr. Calthrop, and at the conclusion of the case for the prosecution he called evidence, and he also put the three prisoners in the box. One of the English witnesses for the defence, Mr. Holworthy, had given evidence to the effect that the first prisoner, Kwok Leung, was his chair coolie. He said that when he arrived at the Peak on the day of the murder by the 12.15 or 12.30 tram, he found his chair waiting for him as he had ordered, and there were only three chair coolies, among them Kwok Leung. In cross-examination he said that he asked why the four were not there, and that No. 1 prisoner had said there had been a fight, and that that was why the fourth coolie, No. 2 prisoner, was absent. When Kwok Leung was in the box he gave evidence that there had been only three coolies at the tram station. In cross-examination he said No. 2 prisoner was the missing coolie. He then said in answer to a question put by the Attorney-General that he did not tell his master, Mr. Holworthy, that there had been a fight. Other questions on this point were about to be put by the Attorney-General when it occurred to me that Mr. Holworthy's evidence had not been translated to the prisoners, and I intimated that in the circumstances I did not think that the point ought to be pressed, to which the Attorney-General assented. The jury acquitted No. 1, but found the second and third prisoners guilty of manslaughter. Before sentence Mr. Calthrop intimated that some of the evidence, either English or Punti, had not been translated to the prisoners, and moved that the question be reserved for the Full Court as a question of law, whether the conviction ought not to be quashed on the ground that the evidence ought to have been translated, and this is the point on which we are now called upon to give our decisions. It is advisable to deal at once with the question of materiality of the evidence actually admitted but untranslated. If No. 1 prisoner had been found guilty, undoubtedly the fact that he had told this untruth with regard to No. 2 prisoner would have influenced the jury, and I should have found it extremely difficult not to quash the conviction. We have not, however, to consider whether any part of the evidence which was untranslated was material, and so contributed to the conviction of the other prisoners. Mr. Calthrop had taken the broad ground that none of the evidence of the Crown was translated, and as they were convicted some of it must have been material. He raises therefore the abstract question whether a conviction can stand when the prisoners have no knowledge of the evidence given against them. He called it "inadmissible evidence," and strictly, this is the right term to use, though it is not its ordinary use. There is a recent case, *R. v. Hadwin*, where a conviction against

several prisoners was quashed on the ground that the others were not allowed to cross-examine one of them who went into the box. Evidence given without cross-examination is strictly speaking, inadmissible evidence, and scientifically the term is rightly used. There are three at least *a priori* reasons in favour of Mr. Calthrop's contention. First, the prisoner is always entitled to make a statement, even when he is defended by Counsel, therefore he must know what the evidence against him is. Secondly, now that the prisoner may give evidence, it is more than ever material that he should know the evidence against him in order that he may meet it, and, as we do not assume the prisoner guilty until he is so found, if he does not know it, the truth may be kept back. There may be some part of the evidence for the Crown which he could easily rebut had he known it. If he does not know it he cannot do so. Thirdly, if he does not hear what the witnesses are saying, he cannot assist his counsel in cross-examining them. I confess, that without looking at the authorities, the question presents no difficulties, where the prisoner is not defended by counsel, and the real difficulty arises from the fact that in this case they were defended. But the *a priori* arguments seem to me very strong, and the first applies whether there is counsel or not. The third is specially concerned with the fact that there is a counsel. The second may in some measure be answered by the fact that the depositions taken before the magistrate have already been translated to the prisoner, and therefore he has notice of what is going to be said in the box at the trial. But this is not conclusive, because it does not apply to new statements which may be made in cross-examination. Moreover, the depositions are not evidence at the trial until any part of them is specially made evidence, and therefore I think that the *a priori* reasons in favour of quashing the conviction are very strong. His Lordship, after quoting numerous authorities, proceeded—None of the cases cited therefore support the Attorney-General's contention that the translation of the evidence to a prisoner who does not understand it, is a mere irregularity in proceedings. On the contrary, the authorities are all the other way, and looking at the reason of the thing, I have no hesitation in saying that it is not merely as grave an irregularity as could well be imagined, but that it is contrary to those fundamental and elemental principles of justice for which, to use a phrase of one of the old judges, rhetorical, yet pregnant with meaning—"English administration of justice is so justly famous," and which has made it respected and trusted by the people. The only question which remains, is whether the fact that the prisoners were represented by Counsel makes any difference, for I am clear that in a case where the prisoner was not represented by counsel the conviction in such circumstances must be quashed. But this point is fully covered by the authorities cited by Mr. Calthrop. In *R. v. Bertrand*, the irregularity of reading the depositions taken at the first trial, was acquiesced in by the prisoner's counsel, and not passively but actively, for he cross-examined the witnesses on these depositions. The question resolved itself into whether any injustice to the prisoner resulted from it, and this is how this question was treated: "It is a mistake, moreover, to consider the question only with reference to the prisoner. The object of a trial is the administration of justice in a course as free from doubt or chance of miscarriage as merely human administration of it can be—not the interests of either party. This remark very much lessens the importance of a prisoner's consent, even when he is advised by counsel, and substantially, not of course literally, affirms the wisdom of the common understanding in the profession that a prisoner can consent to nothing." In *R. v. Moore* the prisoners were represented by counsel, and in the course of the argument Hawkins J. said, "The fact that the prisoner's counsel has taken no objection does not make the evidence admissible." The only case on which the Attorney-General could rely on this point was a remark in *R. v. Ysmade* by Erle J. which has some bearing on the relations between counsel and prisoner. The question was whether in a murder case in the year 1854 the Court

could assign counsel to defend the prisoner. What the learned judge said was "I should be very glad if I could do so, but by allowing counsel to appear without any communication with the prisoner, and without his sanction, I might be authorising a defence which the prisoner himself would never have made, and yet for which he might be responsible." I think, if I rightly understand his argument, the Attorney-General desired to draw the inference that a prisoner is responsible for, and therefore bound by, what his counsel does, or leaves undone. So far as what he leaves undone is concerned, the authorities are dead against the contention. But the learned judge clearly used the word "responsible" as meaning "take the consequences." Of course the jury would be influenced by what counsel might say, and the prisoner would suffer if the defence was an unsubstantial one. What the circumstances alluded to do not apply, for counsel now assigned to defend prisoners for murder may and do communicate with them. But the case has an important bearing on the question of trials of foreigners, for Ysmade was a Spaniard, and the evidence was translated and read over to him by the judge, and care was taken that he was made acquainted with all that transpired during the trial. I am therefore of opinion that the fact of counsel being retained by, or assigned to the prisoner, makes no difference to the application of the principle of the law as I have deduced it from the authorities. And to the suggestion that the prisoners have suffered no hardship I answer they have suffered the greatest hardship of an irregular trial. Though, as was said in the judgment in *R. v. Bertrand*, this is irrelevant to the question which this Court has to decide. The quashing of this conviction is regrettable in itself: it is more so from the fact that this is not the first time the question has been raised. The Attorney-General referred to the custom of this Court, which has been, he said, invariably never to translate the evidence when prisoners are represented by counsel. That it was the custom seems to be a fact, for at the first murder case I tried in this Colony I drew attention to it, and directed the evidence to be translated, and I seem by referring to my notes to have done so a second time at the next Assize. I think the statement made by the late interpreter of the Court is defective in this respect, but it has been somewhat amended and explained. It is most regrettable that no note was taken by the Registrar of what I then said for the guidance of the interpreter in the future. It was undoubtedly the duty of the Registrar to have it recorded, or else what falls from the bench becomes mere idle talk instead of what it is intended to be, guidance for the future. But the position taken up by the Crown, though, I am glad to say, the Attorney-General did not defend it, is that in murder cases, when it is essential that everything should be done to insure the fairest trial possible, the slacker custom of not interpreting is sufficient. This consideration by itself is to my mind enough to show how bad the procedure is. One word more, which is necessary in consequence of what the learned Attorney-General said with regard to his experience in other Colonies. He referred to cases in Cyprus where prisoners are of many nationalities, Turks, Greeks, English and I know not what others.

The Attorney-General—Turks and Greeks only, my Lord.

His Lordship—I was only using a quotation.

The Attorney-General—There are English of course, my Lord, but I thought you were going to add infidels and heretics.

His Lordship, proceeding, said the Attorney-General stated that it was not the practice to interpret the evidence in the Courts in Cyprus, and that if it were, great expenditure of time and money would be the result. I can only say that in the trial of human beings for crimes, the law of England requires the utmost consideration for the accused, and the most scrupulous exactness in the conduct of the proceedings, and that time and money are nothing compared with liberty and life. I have little doubt that the law, as we have laid it down, unless a higher tribunal says it is wrong, will be acted upon throughout the King's Dominions.

The Puisne Judge said—I do not propose to review the facts at any length, nor to deal



minutely with the numerous authorities referred to by Counsel on both sides in the course of a very full and exhaustive argument. I think the facts and the authorities have been sufficiently dealt with in the judgment of the learned Chief Justice, with which I agree generally. But I feel bound in a case of this importance to write out my own conclusions on my own lines, and I have endeavoured to set out the result as briefly as possible. The facts are shortly as follows: On the hearing of a charge for murder practically the whole of the evidence for the prosecution being given in a language the prisoners did not understand, none of that evidence was interpreted to them at the trial. The question is, then, whether a conviction obtained under such circumstances can hold good. Now, leaving out of consideration for a moment the fact that these prisoners were defended by counsel, I will take an elementary case, that of an undefended prisoner who hears none of the evidence given against him, and who, in fact, has no more perception of the proceedings than if he was absent from Court altogether. The general rule in a criminal prosecution is that the defendant must personally appear at the bar of the Court in order to be arraigned by hearing the indictment read, and to plead to it and further, that the defendant must remain in Court during the whole of the proceedings. He has, in fact, a right to be present at the trial as long as he conducts himself properly, and the law is so stated by Sir James S. Stephen, Digest of Criminal Procedure Act, 302. See also Archibald's Criminal Pleadings, 23rd edition, page 186, "No trial for felony can be had except in the presence of the defendant." The rigidity of this rule appears to be absolute. On a trial for felony the prisoner must be in Court. Misdemeanours are to some extent on a different footing, but I will deal with them later on. I lay stress upon the importance of the rule that the prisoner must be actually present, because this doctrine seems to me to involve a great deal more than the mere corporal presence necessitated by his being given in charge to the jury. I think it goes further and requires an actual mental apprehension of the proceedings, for how, otherwise, would the prisoner know what witnesses to call, or how would he be able to meet the evidence against him in the statement the law allows him to make to the jury? It was indeed almost suggested by the Crown that it is not technically necessary that the prisoner who is in the Court should be able to understand the proceedings, and we were referred to several cases in which deaf mutes had been tried and convicted on an indictment for felony. But no such document can be founded on these cases (quotes). The whole tendency, therefore, of these authorities seems favourable to the prisoners in the case before us. It may be said of course, that a prisoner at sessions, who had had the evidence translated to him at the Police Court is well aware of the general tenor of the case against him, and that he may, if he chooses, waive his right to have the evidence interpreted again. The answer is, I think, that while in several cases the rules of evidence may be waived by consent of the parties in a criminal case, these rules are matters *public juris*, and cannot be so dispensed with. On a criminal trial, not merely the single person accused has an interest at stake, but every other subject of the Crown concerned, in seeing that the prisoner is not deprived of life or liberty except under the whole of the safeguards prescribed by law. No acquiescence by the prisoner can therefore be of any effect. If then, it is necessary for an undefended prisoner to hear the evidence at the trial, is there any difference when he is defended by counsel? If there is, such a difference, it might perhaps be suggested in one of two ways: either that the prisoner is by the law so identified with the personality of his advocate that the knowledge of the counsel is the knowledge of the client, and that the latter must be taken to have understood the evidence which was in fact apprehended by the former, or alternatively, it might be said that counsel, having been satisfied to let the evidence go untranslated, has waived his client's privilege, and cannot afterwards be allowed to raise an objection. Now, the unsoundness of the first of these propositions sufficiently appears, I think,

on mere statement. Counsel has only knowledge of these facts aggregating his clients defence which may have been actually communicated to him. New points must frequently arise at the hearing, especially on cross-examination which counsel cannot deal with of his own knowledge, and without referring to his client for the facts. It is really impossible that in a case of any magnitude counsel should have as close an acquaintance with the peculiar circumstances of the defence as the prisoner himself. The latter's knowledge must necessarily be more intimate and complete. This must be so even in an English Court where matters are not usually complicated by differences of language. How much more so when the accused himself and most of the witnesses are Chinese, and not knowing English, and the latter speak a dialect which neither the prisoner himself nor his advocate can understand. The first suggestion therefore falls to the ground. As to the second point of waiver by counsel, I think that if in criminal matters, when the plea is not guilty, the client himself is not competent to bridge, by acquiescence, gaps in the case against him, nor to condone irregularities by consent, then *a fortiori* his counsel can assume no such responsibility for him. It is true that the *quasi* civil character which the early law attached to mere misdemeanours has occasionally led in their case to slight relaxations of the rule. Thus on a second trial of a charge of manslaughter, the evidence of a witness at the first trial has been by consent of the prisoner, and to save time merely read out by the judge from his notes, and then assented to *en bloc* by the witnesses. . . . It is unnecessary, I suppose, to labour the point that if the consent of counsel is not sufficient to bind the prisoner on a trial for misdemeanour when the latter perhaps, if he so expressly desires, bind himself, then on a trial for felony where the prisoner *ex hypothesi* can consent to nothing, the consent of counsel purporting to be given on the prisoner's behalf can be of no avail. I am unfortunately then compelled to the conclusion that there was a grave irregularity running through the whole conduct of the trial: an irregularity which was beyond the competence of the prisoners or of their counsel to waive or condone, and which is sufficiently serious to vitiate the whole proceedings. It necessarily follows that I must hold that there was a mis-trial, and that the conviction should therefore be quashed. I have arrived at this result perhaps by reasoning along somewhat narrow and technical lines, but in a case of this importance it is urgently necessary to keep fundamental principles rigidly in view. On general grounds, however, and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the present case, I venture to think my conclusion is based upon the broad principles of justice. For the purposes of the judgment, I have assumed throughout that counsel for the prisoners was consciously aware of the irregularity that was being committed. As a matter of fact, however, I should think it exceedingly unlikely that it came to Mr. Calthrop's notice while the evidence for the Crown was being given that evidence was not being interpreted to his clients. He was entitled to assume, as the Court and the Attorney-General must have assumed, that the proceedings were being regularly conducted, and that everything that the law required would be done. It appears as if the irregularity escaped his notice altogether up to the middle of the case for the defence, when he very properly reserved the point and took time to consider the suggestion thrown out by the Court. It would clearly be a monstrous thing, if, when men were being tried for their lives, the Crown was entitled to reply that it was the duty of counsel to notice earlier what was going on, and that because he had not done so, an objection of such weight must be overruled as coming too late in the proceedings. Now, again, is it possible to hold that the prisoners, unlettered and ignorant men, had any notion that they were consciously abandoning a right the law entitled them to claim. Suppose the case of an Englishman who should be on trial on a capital charge when travelling in a foreign country, of whose language and procedure he was entirely ignorant. Suppose that, either by the efforts of his friends or by the good offices of the foreign government, he should be provided with an

advocate to assist him at the trial. Surely the first request of an educated man possessing the least familiarity with courts of law would be that the whole of the evidence at the trial should be carefully interpreted to him. If, being illiterate, he should through ignorance or timidity refrain from making that request, and forbear calling the attention of his advocate to the matter, surely he would not think it consonant with the principles of justice for him to be told after conviction that he had waived his rights by not insisting on them earlier, and that having already heard the gist of the evidence at the preliminary proceedings in an inferior court, he had not in fact any real cause of complaint.

The Chief Justice—The convictions are quashed.

The Attorney-General—Having regard to your Lordship's decision I have now to say that I intend preferring an indictment on the charge of murder against both prisoners.

The Chief Justice—You are at liberty to do that. The administration of the criminal law is in your hands, and you may instruct the police as you think fit.

Mr. Calthrop asked for the discharge of the prisoners.

The Chief Justice—I have discharged them.

Mr. Calthrop stated that in a case recently decided by the Court of Crown Cases Reserved it was held that prisoners could not be re-arrested after their discharge.

The Attorney-General—My friend can argue that when the case comes on for trial.

The prisoners were re-arrested leaving Court.

#### A QUESTION OF DOMICILE.

Judgment was given in the appeal against the decision of the Chief Justice on the point of jurisdiction raised in the bankruptcy of Chan Yu Shan. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sing, appeared for the appellant. The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Messrs. d'Almada and Smith, appeared for respondents. The Chief Justice in the course of his judgment said:—I have given my best consideration to Sir Henry Berkeley's careful and concise little argument on a point which seems still open to argument on my judgment from which he appealed, but I think the conclusion of fact at which I arrived was warranted and that having specially in view the aspect of the bankruptcy jurisdiction which I endeavoured to elucidate, the conclusion of law based on the conclusion of fact was sound. Before giving judgment a few days ago, however, the attention of the Court was drawn to Ordinance 6 of 1902, which apparently had been overlooked by all of us. Our attention was properly drawn to it, because the Court is bound to take official cognizance of the laws of the Colony, and solicitors, being officers of the Court are bound to assist the Court in the performance of this duty, which, in the case of a Colonial Statute book is often a difficult one. We therefore deferred our judgment in order to see whether this Ordinance has any bearing on the question before us, so as to induce us to alter our judgment. It provides that the word "debtor" as used in section three of the Bankruptcy Ordinance as revised, section 4 as it was then, is included "a person who, though not himself personally within the Colony, carries on business by an agent within the Colony and possesses assets therein", and there is a further explanation of the definition which I shall refer to presently. Now if in this case, the debtor had still remained in Annam, merely sending up his cinnamon to his agent the Kwang Mow, in this Colony, for sale, he would have come within the meaning of this definition. *A fortiori* he would have come within the bankruptcy jurisdiction when, instead of remaining in Annam he comes himself to the Colony to take some part in the transaction of his business. But I do not base my decision on that ground, because I believe that consistently with the fundamental principles of jurisdiction as I have explained them, and consistently with the remarks I have already made, and must presently make, on the extraterritorial provisions of the colonial bankruptcy law, this debtor is properly subject to that law. As I have endeavoured to explain it, I have not held that he is clearly within it, but having given the matter very careful consideration I use the word "properly" advisedly. This really disposes of the case before us, but the question I have now in my mind is whether this Ordinance 6 of 1902, having



been referred to, I ought not to go further, and express my opinion in it and upon the larger question which is involved in it. This ordinance is most frankly extraterritorial, and therefore it has become necessary to consider the question definitely. I am glad I have done so, because the conclusion which I have come to is a surprise to myself, and has upset my own preconceived notions on this important question of colonial constitutional law. I must in the first place criticise ordinance 6 of 1902 as a most unsatisfactory piece of draftsmanship. Continuing, his Lordship said it included a definition of 'debtor' which already included two definitions as conditions preliminary to the presentation of a bankruptcy petition. The clause not having been repealed there were therefore two redundant provisions, and he was not quite sure that that might not cause some confusion. Proceeding his Lordship said:—The principle that a Colonial Legislature can only legislate territorially is in the case of a Crown Colony, limited therefore to this, that if it is passed in the absence of special instructions from Home, it is the duty of the Attorney-General to call the attention of the Colonial Office to the point in his explanatory report, and the Secretary of State as the constitutional adviser of the Sovereign will advise the King whether to disallow the ordinance or not. I am bound to assume, although I consider the ordinance 6 of 1902 to be defective in point of form and much in need of amendment, that the question has been duly considered at home. For all these reasons I am of opinion that all the extraterritoriality provisions of the bankruptcy law of the Colony, including No 6 of 1902, are *intra vires*. The Puisne Judge concurred.

## CANTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

February 23rd.

### DELAY IN REGISTRATION OF TITLE DEEDS.

Shortly after the opening of the official seals several persons petitioned the Provincial Treasurer complaining that the Chief Clerk of the Department for the Registration of Leasehold Property at the Provincial Treasurer's Yamen had detained the assignments and title deeds of the properties purchased by them, which were sent in for registration several months ago and that all registration fees and stamp duty, (6 per cent. on the consideration money,) were paid in at the time the deeds were handed to the Chief Clerk. The petitioners stated that the long delay in returning the deeds and the numerous lame excuses proffered by the clerks whenever they went to obtain the deeds had caused them to suspect that the clerks had either embezzled the fees and stamp duty or that they had fraudulently made use of their title deeds to raise money.

The Chief Clerk performed the vanishing act on the day the petitions were presented, he being the principal culprit. Treasurer Woo after giving instructions to the police to look for the Chief Clerk issued the following proclamation:—

"This proclamation is issued to inform property owners and the chief clerks of the Department for the Registration of Leasehold Property in all the District Magistracies in the Province that in future whenever people send in assignments of properties for registration the chief clerk of these departments must forward them to the Bureau of Registration in their respective Districts within five days on receipt of same for the fixing of the official seal on the deeds. All assignments and title deeds connected with property sent in for registration must be returned to the owners within fifteen days from the time the stamp duty is paid. If the deeds are not returned to the owners within that time owners are at liberty to institute an action against the registration departments and investigation will be made with a view to the punishment of the delinquent clerk. Any person who attempts to pay less than the full amount of stamp duty will be severely fined.

### SHORT OF FUNDS TO DEFRAY POLICE EXPENSES.

Wong Taotai, the Chief of Police here, being short of funds, owing to the destruction of the flower boats by fire at Tai-shu-tau and the consequent diminution in the taxes collected both from the flower boats and their inmates, has

petitioned Viceroy Chang to grant \$4,000 a month to defray police expenses. His Excellency has instructed the Bureau of Local Affairs to pay the amount. This is a wise decision as the raising of new taxes from other sources might cause trouble, because the people are having rather hard times and business is slack everywhere.

### NEW COPPER COINS.

The Viceroy has given instructions to the Director of the Provincial Mints to strike \$50,000 worth of copper cents every month. The design of the new coppers coin will be exactly the same as the old one. The coins of course, will bear the new designation of the reign—Sheun Tung.

## CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

PRACTICALLY UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT.

It is reported (our Canton correspondent writes) that the Prime Minister, Chang Chi Tung who has supreme control of the Canton-Hankow Railway, has specially delegated Taotai Wong Ping Yan to superintend the construction of the railway and to reside permanently in Canton. He will investigate the railway affairs and report as to the actual financial condition and also as to the amount of work completed and in progress.

If the capital is not sufficient or if there is any incapacity shown the Government is to take over the concern.

It is appointment may be a blunder on the part of the Central authorities at this juncture, for since the Cantonese people have undertaken to construct the line themselves, at no time since the line was started has more activity been shown than within the last few months. This increased activity has doubtless been due to the threat of the Central Government to turn the undertaking over to the officials. Under the able direction of Sir Chan Tung Liang Sheng, who has shown himself an able administrator, matters have been pushed ahead of late and work is proceeding for more than 40 miles beyond Yun Tam, the present terminal station about 48 miles from Canton. Competent observers give full credit to the Chinese for the way in which the work is being done. The road is well laid while the scenery along the route is beautiful.

The Cantonese are proud of what they have achieved and will certainly suffer no interference from the Central Government. Wong Ping Yan's task is a delicate one and unless he shows exceptional ability in managing his so called supervision the shareholders might make the place too hot for him. The Cantonese are a fairly independent lot and where their interests are at stake a mere edict will have very little effect.

## NEW SOLICITOR ENROLLED.

Before the business of the day was proceeded with at the Supreme Court yesterday the Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K. C., Attorney-General, moved for the admission of Mr. Hing Kam Hung as a solicitor of the Court. Mr. Hing Kam Hung had had quite a distinguished career. He was educated at Queen's College, Hongkong, and afterwards went to England where he was articled to the firm of Messrs. Allithorne, Currie and Co., Gray's Inn, with whom he remained during his articles. He passed the final examination of the Incorporated Law Society in the month of June, 1903, and was admitted a solicitor of the Supreme Court in England on October 14th of the same year. He also obtained a certificate for first class honours from the Incorporated Law Society in June 1903. In December he returned to Hongkong and intends to join the firm of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon as an assistant solicitor.

His Lordship said he had looked through the papers; they were all right, and he had much pleasure in admitting Mr. Hing Kam Hung as a solicitor of the Court.

The period of State mourning in China expired on Saturday, and the Board of the Interior by proclamation commanded all people to have their heads shaved on that day.

## FOREIGNERS AND MORTGAGES ON CHINESE PROPERTY IN CANTON.

Our Canton correspondent writes:—Viceroy Chang in a dispatch to the Provincial Treasurer dealing with the subject of mortgages of leasehold properties to foreigners by Chinese subjects points out to the Treasurer Woo that in all the Treaties made between China and the Foreign Powers nothing whatever has been mentioned in them regarding the mortgage of land and houses to Foreigners by Chinese subjects. His Excellency instructs the Provincial Treasurer that in future when Chinese subjects borrow money from foreigners on leasehold properties the proper course to adopt is to draw up a document of guarantee or a promissory note with a clause specifying the leasehold properties pledged with foreigners as guarantee for the repayment of the loan. The promissory note or document of guarantee will have to be registered against the property at the yamen which has jurisdiction over the property pledged. Such transactions must not be put through by a deed of mortgage and no title deeds of the property should be handed over to the foreigner. There is also a difference in the conveyance of properties acquired by foreign merchants in Treaty Ports and missionaries in the interior of China. Properties are transferred to Foreign merchants by a perpetual lease and to missionaries by absolute assignment. In the 32nd year of Kwang Su, the Kwangtung Bureau for the Registration of Leasehold Properties petitioned the Viceroy to sanction a new regulation regarding loans advanced to Chinese subjects by foreigners on leasehold properties. From inquiries made His Excellency stated that he had discovered that Chinese subjects had habitually borrowed money from foreigners by mortgaging their properties. If the new regulation is not strictly enforced trouble may arise. On the 12th day of the 12th moon of the 24th year of Kwang Su, Leong Shun Yan Tong mortgaged certain properties in Canton, situated in Shakes Taikai to Messrs. Deacon & Co., a British firm. The Viceroy states that he has already communicated with the British Consul in regard to this matter and has requested the Consul to have the mortgage deed altered into a document of guarantee to secure repayment of the loan and have it registered at the Nam-Hoi Magistracy against the properties. It was also distinctly stated in the Viceroy's dispatch to the British Consul that in future, if any Chinese subjects raise loans on leasehold properties from British subjects and if the Chinese subjects fail on due date to redeem the property it is the duty of the foreign merchant to request the Chinese officials to dispose of the property so pledged and repay the loan out of the proceeds of sale. If no interest is paid to the foreign merchant during the continuance of the loan he can only collect the rent of the houses as interest, but he will not be permitted to raise the rent nor will he be allowed the privilege of entering into possession of the property. The foreign merchant will also not have power to dispose of the property by public or private sale. Once a property is pledged with a foreigner, the landlord cannot mortgage it to another person. If the landlord is indebted to other people he will not be allowed to make use of the property to guarantee his debts after a property is pledged to a foreign merchant. If the landlord makes use of the house for any illegal purpose or if the landlord should permit the house to be used for such purpose as to infringe any of the laws of China the Chinese authorities will have power to seal and confiscate the property. If the creditors of the landlord were to institute an action in the Chinese courts and attach the property and the property is sold, the amount advanced by the foreign merchant on the property will be paid off first. In future if any Chinese subjects borrow money on their property from foreign merchants they must abide by the above regulations. The Viceroy instructs the Provincial Treasurer to draw up a form of guarantee and forward copies of it to all the officials in the Province of Kwangtung so that they may have same printed for use, in the event of Chinese subjects borrowing money on their properties from foreign merchants.



## COMPANY REPORTS.

## THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the fortieth ordinary meeting, on Tuesday, March 9th, is as follows:—

The General Managers and Consulting Committee have pleasure in submitting to the shareholders the fortieth annual report of the Company.

## 1907 ACCOUNT.

This account shows a profit of \$330,232.90 which sum, subject to the approval of the shareholders, it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz:—

Dividend of \$27 per share ... \$216,000.00  
Addition to Reserve Fund ... 114,232.90

\$330,232.90

## 1908 ACCOUNT.

The balance at credit of this account is \$368,711.23.

## MORTGAGES.

From the reports and valuations made by the Company's Surveyors, the General Managers and Consulting Committee are satisfied that the properties held by the Company form ample security for the advances made.

## CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with section 13 of the Articles of Association, the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. White, Maitland and Gubbay retire, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

## AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and H. Percy Smith, F.C.A. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.

## General Managers,

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.

## Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1908.

## LIABILITIES.

|                                                             |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Capital 8,000 shares of \$250 each—                         |                 |
| \$2,000,000.00 of which \$50 per share has been paid up ... | \$ 400,000.00   |
| Reserve fund ...                                            | 1,323,941.56    |
| Uncollected dividends ...                                   | 12,593.05       |
| Accounts payable ...                                        | 47,469.94       |
| Working Account, 1907:—                                     |                 |
| Net profit ...                                              | 330,232.90      |
| Working Account 1908:—                                      |                 |
| Amount brought forward from below ...                       | 368,711.23      |
|                                                             | \$ 2,482,948.68 |

## ASSETS.

|                                                                             |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cash, on current account with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ... | \$137,319.46    |
| Cash in hands of General Managers ...                                       | 680.12          |
| Fixed Deposits:—                                                            |                 |
| H'kong & S'hai Bank- ing Corp'n ...                                         | \$50,000.00     |
| Chartd. Bk. of India, Aust. & China ...                                     | 50,000.00       |
| Mercantile Bank of India, Limited ...                                       | 25,000.00       |
|                                                                             | 125,000.00      |
| Mortgages:—                                                                 |                 |
| In Hongkong ...                                                             | \$1,139,549.99  |
| In Shanghai ...                                                             | 744,673.89      |
|                                                                             | 1,884,223.88    |
| Japanese Government deposits:—                                              |                 |
| Consolidation bonds ...                                                     | \$19,277.51     |
| Imperial bonds ...                                                          | 45,376.28       |
| War bonds ...                                                               | 17,794.62       |
|                                                                             | 82,448.41       |
| Chinese Imperial Go- vernment loan, 1886 ...                                | \$21,207.74     |
| Shanghai Land In- vestment Company, Debentures ...                          | 27,586.20       |
| Shanghai Club de- bentures ...                                              | 26,666.67       |
| Hongkong Hotel Company Ltd., de- bentures ...                               | 52,000.00       |
|                                                                             | 127,460.61      |
| Accounts receivable ...                                                     | 125,816.20      |
|                                                                             | \$ 2,482,948.68 |

## WORKING ACCOUNT, 1907.

## Dr.

|                                                       |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Losses and Claims ...                                 | \$123,730.30 |
| Charges ...                                           | 39,279.91    |
| Remuneration to Consulting Committee and Auditors ... | 5,500.00     |
| Commissions ...                                       | 48,997.71    |
| Balance as above ...                                  | 330,232.90   |
|                                                       | \$547,740.82 |

## Cr.

|                                                          |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Net Premia received, less re- turns and reinsurances ... | \$385,456.78 |
| Interest ...                                             | 156,851.54   |
| Transfer fees ...                                        | 102.00       |
| Exchange ...                                             | 5,330.50     |
|                                                          | \$547,740.82 |

## WORKING ACCOUNT, 1908.

## Dr.

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Losses and claims ... | \$ 81,237.90 |
| Charges ...           | 34,635.19    |
| Commissions ...       | 49,306.20    |
| Exchange ...          | 2,871.51     |
| Balance as above ...  | 368,711.23   |
|                       | \$536,762.03 |

## Cr.

|                                                        |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Net Premia received, less returns and reinsurances ... | \$374,694.03 |
| Interest ...                                           | 161,979.00   |
| Transfer Fees ...                                      | 89.00        |
|                                                        | \$536,762.03 |

## THE SOY CHEE COTTON SPINNING CO., LD.

The annual report for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1908 states that the Balance at Credit of Profit and Loss Account at the close of the year, after allowing for Directors' Auditor's Fees and Manager's Commission, and including the Balance carried forward on January, 1st 1908, amounts to Tls. 60,214.12 which the Directors propose to deal with as follows:—

|                                                                                                                         |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| To write off 5 per cent for depreciation of Machinery ...                                                               | 34,306.08      |
| To write off 10 per cent for depreciation of Furniture ...                                                              | 288.42         |
| To write off 2½ per cent for depreciation of Buildings ...                                                              | 6,791.99       |
| To place 5 per cent of net profit to Legal Reserve Fund (in accordance with Rule 24 of the Articles of Association) ... | 2,915.82       |
| To carry forward to 1909 account ...                                                                                    | 15,911.81      |
|                                                                                                                         | Tls. 60,214.12 |

In accordance with Rule 24 of the Articles of Association, 10 per cent of the balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account are to be granted to the General Manager as a Bonus, but in order to assist the Mill, this Bonus is not being claimed by the special wish of the Manager.

The U.S. Army Appropriation Bill which passed the Senate last week contains an item of \$350,000 (gold) for barracks in the Philippines, and \$250,000 for building on the island of Corregidor.

Mr. Werner Laurie the well known London publisher is about to publish "Strange Stories from a Chinese studio," translated and annotated by Dr. Herbert A. Giles, Professor of Chinese in the University of Cambridge and some time Consul at Ningpo. His Excellency the Marquis of Tseng has written to Dr. Giles in connection with this book:—"I congratulate you on having in this made the best translation of a Chinese work into English which has ever come under my notice. Whilst remaining faithful to the original, you have succeeded in a remarkable degree in preserving the spirit of the author. The manner in which this has been done has surprised and delighted me. You have placed Chinese scholars under a deep debt of gratitude to you for the elegant manner in which you set the work of their countrymen before the English reader."

## COMPANY MEETINGS.

## HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

## HALF YEARLY MEETING.

The ordinary half yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held on Feb. 20th at noon in the City Hall. Mr. E. Shellim, Chairman of directors, presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson (deputy chairman), Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade, Messrs. E. G. Barrett, C. S. Gubbay, W. Helms, C. R. Lenzmann, R. Shewan, H. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins (directors), J. R. M. Smith (chief manager), J. Barton, A. F. Warrack, T. Skinner, W. Dunbar, F. Maitland, E. H. Hinds, Murray Stewart, H. N. Mody, Capt. C. V. Lloyd, E. F. Mackay, R. B. Hynd, Lau Pun Chiu, C. Pemberton, E. D. Haskell, Wong Leung Him, H. C. Joass, J. Cox-Edwards, Ho Fook, Ho Kom Tong, Lo Cheung Shiu, A. Findlay Smith, G. del Castillo, J. M. E. Machado, Ellis Kadoorie, J. C. Peter, J. A. Jupp, J. W. C. Bonnar, W. E. Clarke, W. Hutton Potts, Dr. J. W. Noble, W. H. Wickham, G. Murray Bain, T. F. Hough, C. H. Ross, Dr. J. H. Sanders, W. Taylor, D. Tohdow, H. W. H. Nemazee, F. H. Thomas, and F. G. Carroll.

The Chief Manager having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN read the report and afterwards said:—Gentlemen, Before proceeding to discuss the report and accounts I have to refer with deep regret to the great loss sustained by the Bank through the death of Sir Ewen Cameron. The high tribute paid to his services by the Chairman in 1905, when prolonged illness led to his enforced retirement from active duty, will not be forgotten. Although in failing health, he continued up to the day of his death to take the keenest interest in all that concerned the Bank and as a member of the London Consulting Committee was ever ready to give to the management the benefit of his ripe judgment and varied experience of men and affairs. By his death the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank loses a wise and able councillor and one whose name will always occupy a prominent place in its history. I have also to express on my own behalf and on that of my colleagues on the Board our sorrow at the untimely death of Mr. C. G. R. Brodersen. Mr. Brodersen had been a Director for a short period only but long enough to prove himself a valuable member of the Board and to earn our esteem.

Turning now to the accounts, you will see that the result of the half year's working, including \$2,005,774.81 carried over from the previous six months, leaves the sum of \$5,629,125.65 available for distribution and I hope you will approve of a dividend of £2 per share; a bonus of 5/- per share; \$5 lacs added to silver reserve fund; and about \$20 lacs carried forward, as recommended by your Directors. Despite all we have heard about dull and restricted trade, the Bank has had a good half year and it is a great pleasure to the Board to be in a position to recommend a bonus of 5/- per share in addition to the usual dividend. I need hardly say that these results testify to the manner in which the Staff, from the Chief Manager downwards, continue to work in the interests of the Bank, and I am sure that you will approve the action of your Directors in voting, as a mark of appreciation, a bonus of 10 per cent. on salaries (applause). Comparing the statement of assets and liabilities with that of six months ago, you will notice an all-round increase in the figures. Chinese New Year fell on January 22nd, and its near approach, when money is always in special demand, accounts for the increase of some \$35 lacs in the note circulation. Deposits show the large increase of about \$43 millions. Of this increase gold deposits account for nearly \$31 millions, and although the lower rate of exchange on the 31st December last is responsible for a great amount expressed in dollars, still in sterling the increase is £2,400,000, which being mainly due to the proceeds of recently issued public loans, that have not yet been drawn from our London Office, can only be considered as temporary. In the increase of \$12 millions in the silver deposits may be seen a reflection of restricted trade, as a great proportion of such



increase no doubt represents accumulation of capital waiting for a trade revival. You will readily understand that some difficulty was experienced in finding remunerative employment during the half year for this large increase in the amount of money entrusted to the Bank's keeping. Bills payable show an increase of \$30 lacs. On the other side, the amount of dollars deposited with the Hongkong Government is raised from \$10,000,000 to \$13,000,000. Cash and bullion in hand and in transit, are higher by about \$48 lacs. Bills discounted, loans and credits have increased by \$10 millions and bills receivable by \$27 millions. Consols, Colonial and other securities show an increase of \$48 lacs, due to temporary investments on account of the increased resources already referred to. In China the period under review has been one of great moment. The almost simultaneous deaths of the Emperor and the Empress Dowager whose influence over the destinies of China has made itself felt for a long period of years, and the accession of an infant to the throne with his father as Prince Regent, are events which have occurred, fortunately, without the peace of the land being disturbed. Let us hope that under the new regime many of the more urgently needed reforms will be inaugurated and carried into effect and that fresh developments of the Empire's vast potential resources may give a new impetus to the national prosperity and increasingly promote the well being of the people. Favourable crops in India have stimulated exports and the recuperative power of the country is again manifesting itself. After a period of anxiety, due to curtailed applications for allotment, it is satisfactory to note an increasing demand in London for remittances to India by Council bills, and further evidence of returning prosperity is to be found in the continued demand for bar silver. The continuance of the India demand, displaying as it does a remarkable capacity for absorbing silver independently of Government requirements, has been at once the chief feature and the principal support of the silver market; not, however, without encouraging new speculative tendencies which result in keeping the market in a highly sensitive state rendering it liable to frequent fluctuations and producing an unsettling effect upon the China trade. Although I cannot say that trade in the Far East during the past six months has been altogether satisfactory, yet the hopeful view of the prospects taken at our last meeting has, I think, been justified. A healthier tone is noticeable, business generally is on a sounder basis, stocks of imports are gradually being reduced and crops have been good. Renewed commercial activity has sprung up throughout America while in Europe money continues plentiful and cheap. Thus the time seems ripe for a return to prosperity, and the commencement of a new period of expansion in trade. (Applause).

No questions being asked,

Mr. H. Ross seconded the adoption of the Report and Accounts. In doing so he said:—Gentlemen,—It affords me considerable pleasure to second the report and accounts which have just been presented for your acceptance. The Chairman's reference to the loss we have sustained through the much-to-be-regretted death of Sir Ewen Cameron, and the acknowledgment of the valuable and practically lifelong service which he rendered to the Bank, will, I feel sure, be appreciated by all shareholders present and absent (Applause.) The accounts presented, Gentlemen, do not seem to me to require any comment. They appear satisfactory,—eminently so, and I think we are to be congratulated on the very excellent results of the past half-year's working which our Directors have to-day presented. If this be the result of a half year of dull and restricted trade, what indeed may be expected when the tide of prosperity again flows in the Far East! (Applause.) A brief reference was made by the Chairman to changes which have taken place in Peking during the past few months,—changes which, as the Chairman remarked, are of great moment. The disappearance of that commanding personality, the great Empress Dowager, from the autocratic position which she had held for such a long period,—the death of the Emperor Kwang-Hsu, and the accession to the throne of an Infant, are events, indeed, which for good or ill must affect the Empire with which our interests are so closely

connected. Happily, the peace of the land has not been disturbed, and the changes consequent on the commencement of this new reign appear to be taking place in a quiet, orderly and commonsense manner. The Regent, Prince Chun, who will hold the helm of State for many years to come, has the inestimable advantage, which I believe no other Chinese Ruler of modern times has ever possessed, of having travelled beyond the limit of the Empire and visited Foreign countries. It may be presumed therefore that his horizon is not altogether limited to within the walls of the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace, and I cannot help thinking that this knowledge of the outside world must be of great value to the country which he rules. I trust therefore that the Empire in which all of us have such great and important interest may be entering upon a new and prolonged period of prosperity, and that slow but sure progress may be made with the many reforms which are so urgently needed. (Applause). Gentlemen, results such as have to-day been presented for your acceptance and approval, can only be brought about by hard work and good judgment. Our thanks are therefore surely due to the Chief Manager and the Staff who have achieved for us these splendid earnings,—(Applause)—and I feel sure that you will all most cordially approve of the bonus to the Staff which has been voted by the Directors. (Applause). Gentlemen, I have very great pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts as presented to you to-day (Applause).

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. A. FINDLAY SMITH proposed that the election of Mr. H. A. Siebs as a Director be confirmed and that Mr. R. Shewan, Mr. E. Shellim and the Honourable Mr. H. A. W. Slade be re-elected Directors.

Mr. JOHN A. JUPP seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. E. F. MACKAY, seconded by Mr. G. MURRAY HAIN, Mr. W. Hutton Potts and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar were re-elected Auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

Before the meeting separated, Captain C. V. LLOYD, rose and said:—As almost, if not quite the oldest constituent of the Bank in the East, it seems not inappropriate that it should fall to my lot to say a few words to-day in recognition of the splendid services of our Board of Directors; what those are, you have already seen in the report which is now in your hands, and no eulogy of mine would add to their worth, although no doubt you will realize that more effectively when the dividend warrants are handed round. Let times be ever so good, good direction is as essential in the prosperous days as in the days of adversity, and I think we can congratulate ourselves on having secured that in our Board, and I have much pleasure in asking you to join me in a vote of thanks to the men who have so successfully and triumphantly piloted the ship of the Bank through the troubled financial waters of the past year. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN—On behalf of the directors I thank you for your vote of thanks.

This concluded the proceedings.

#### HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

The ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the above company was held yesterday at the offices in Queen's Buildings. The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson presided and there were present Sir Paul Chater, Messrs. H. A. Siebs, G. Friesland, W. Helms, H. P. White, D. W. Craddock, E. G. Barrett and J. Silverstone (directors) R. Mitchell (Acting Chief Manager), T. I. Rose (secretary), Messrs. T. Skinner, Erich Georg, H. Percy Smith, J. A. Chinoy, F. Maitland, J. W. C. Bonnar, S. J. Michael, Cho'ah Han Sin Rie, Ho Kom Tong, Leep Chee, Ho Fook, Lo Cheung Shui, J. P. Braga, L. Berindoague, M. H. Michael, and A. A. Moreno.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission we will take the report and statement of accounts, presented to you some little time ago, as read. The net profits for

the half year ending 31st December, 1908, amount to \$261,981.53, as compared with \$274,577.68 for the previous six months and \$160,611.95 for the corresponding period of 1907. Including the balance of \$384,847.24 brought forward from last account and deducting Directors and Auditors' fees, we have available for appropriation the sum of \$636,78.77, out of which sum your Directors propose, subject to your approval, to pay a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent or \$4 per share, absorbing \$200,000, place a further sum of \$21,000 to the credit of No. 1 Dock Extension Account, write \$3,000 off the value of Cosmopolitan Dock, \$25,000, off floating plant, and carry forward \$387,078.77 to the new account. We trust the proposed distribution of profits will meet with your approval. The figures now laid before you are slightly less than for the preceding six months but show an increase of about \$100,000 over those of the corresponding period of 1907. The work of lengthening the No. 1 dock has not progressed as quickly as we hoped for, but we find the use of the dock in our business necessarily interferes with and delays the blasting and excavation. The caisson of the No. 3 dock at Kowloon has been overhauled and repaired at a cost of \$5,553.92, which amount, together with \$2,437.78 expended in repairing damage to docks, slips and buildings caused by the typhoon of July, 1908, appears at the debit of Revenue Account. Repairing damage to floating plant after the same typhoon cost us \$8,264; this amount has been passed to the debit of Marine Insurance Account. The loan from the Admiralty having been paid in full, this account now disappears from the statement and will affect our accounts in that we will not require to remit approximately \$10,000 per annum. The item under the heading of "sundry debtors" is about the same as in the last account but "sundry creditors" shows a reduction of \$93,000. This is partly due to their being no instalments paid on work in progress. As to the value of material on hand, this shows a further reduction of about \$70,000. The tonnage of British and Foreign men-of-war docked during the past half year was less than half that for the previous six months but slightly better than the corresponding period for 1907. The number of steamers and tonnage of merchant shipping show little variation over a number of years, but with a tendency to increase. We have been fortunate in securing several good repairing contracts due to strandings which have materially assisted our profits for the period under review. The buildings, shops and plant have been maintained in good condition and the opportunity of a slack period in the machine shops was availed of to give some of the machines a thorough overhaul and adapting them to the requirements for using high speed tool steel. The moorings in front of Kowloon Docks have all been lifted and relaid in good condition. The various improvements and additions at the Kowloon Docks during recent years have put the works in a position for better handling any orders that may be entrusted to us, but one department, namely the foundry, will require enlargement, as, during the past two years, we have been greatly handicapped in not getting castings out as rapidly as was necessary. After consideration of the report drawn up by the Sub-Committee, your Directors deemed it advisable to obtain the services of an Expert to make an exhaustive examination of our whole organization and system of working, and Messrs. Medhurst and Keswick being in England and conversant with our requirements, your Directors requested their assistance in the engagement of a suitable man. Mr. R. M. Dyer, Ship-yard Manager with Messrs. Barclay, Curle & Co., Glasgow, has been selected for the appointment and is now with us. Our thanks are due to Mr. George Dodwell (who kindly consented to act for Mr. Medhurst, absent in New York), and Mr. Henry Keswick for the trouble they have taken in this matter. It is too early as yet to attempt to forecast the result of Mr. Dyer's examination, but I am pleased to say he is receiving the cordial co-operation of our Staff, and you may rest assured that any recommendations he may make tending towards greater economy and efficiency will immediately be carried out. As regards the future, I regret to say that our business seems to be suffering from the pre-



vailing depression as is evidenced by the amount of work we have in hand, which is considerably less than last year. Your Directors realize the urgent necessity of securing new and of holding old and valued constituents, and with a continuance of their support, I trust we may be able to place satisfactory figures before you in August next. If any further information is desired I shall be pleased to afford it, before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN moved and Mr. MAITLAND seconded the adoption of the report. Mr. MAITLAND said:—After the remarks of the Chairman, I have very little to say except that shareholders should be satisfied that their interests are well looked after. The thanks of the shareholders are due to the management and staff and board of directors and they are also indebted to the sub-committee for their laborious work. In future shareholders will reap the benefit of their exertions. I have always heard that the work of the Dock Company is second to none in the East, that in fact it can hold its own anywhere in the world. I hope this will continue and that we shall adopt the motto of the Hongkong Volunteers "Nullus Secundus Oriente" (Applause).

The appointment of the Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson and Messrs. Brodersen and E. G. Barrett as directors was confirmed on the motion of Mr. SKINNER, seconded by Mr. GEORG.

Mr. LO CHEUNG moved and Mr. BONNAR seconded the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. Siebs as director in room of Mr. Brodersen. Carried.

Messrs. Friesland and Craddock were re-elected directors on the motion of Mr. BERINDOAGUE seconded by Mr. Ho Fook.

Mr. M. H. MICHAEL proposed the re-appointment of Messrs. Jeffries and H. Percy Smith as auditors.

Mr. MORENO seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you for your attendance, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow on application.

#### HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company, called for the purpose of passing two resolutions was held at the company's offices on Feb. 25. Mr. W. Hutton Potts presided, and there were also present Dr. Noble, Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar (directors), Mr. C. Mooney (secretary) Messrs. J. Arnold, W. E. Clarke, F. Maitland, P. C. Potts, E. D. Haskell, A. F. Davis, Shi Po Sham, Tung Yat Hing, and Lai Chan.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, as indicated by the Chairman at our meeting on 12th September last, the time has now arrived when we find it necessary to call up fresh capital to meet the expense of the new South block. We have deferred this issue as long as possible, and as you will see from the advertisement appearing in the daily papers, there will be an issue of 8,000 new shares of \$50 each—that is at par; the first call of \$25.00 will be payable on 1st May next, ranking for dividend from that date. Due notice will be sent to each shareholder of the number of shares to which he is entitled. The balance of the capital will probably be required about six months later. The estimated cost of the new block is \$339,000.00. The iron framework has arrived and is being erected; the date for the completion of this part of the work is 27th May while the whole building in due to be finished 15 months later, or say August next year. I beg to propose the adoption of the following resolutions:—

1. That the capital of the Company be increased to \$1,000,000 by the creation of 8,000 additional shares of \$50 each ranking for dividend and in all other respects par passu with the existing shares in the Company.
2. That the said 8,000 additional shares be offered in the first instance at par to all members of the Company registered as Shareholders on the First day of March,

1909, in the proportion of Two New Shares for every Three Original Shares held by them and upon the footing that Fifty per cent. of the full amount of each New Share taken up shall be paid to the Company on acceptance of the offer and that such offer be made by notice specifying the number of Shares to which the member is entitled and limiting a time within which the offer if not accepted by payment will be deemed to be declined and that the directors be empowered to dispose of the Shares not taken in response to such offer as they consider expedient in the interests of the Company.

Mr. MAITLAND seconded and the resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

#### THE HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.

The twenty-eighth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the Company, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., on Saturday noon. The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson presided, and there were also present Messrs. G. K. Haxton (manager) C. L. Maxwell (secretary), H. J. Gedge, J. Barton, C. H. Ross, E. F. Aucott, W. H. Potts, L. N. Leefe, W. N. Fleming, Ho Fook and Lo Cheung Shiu.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, With your permission, I will take the report and accounts as read. The total sales of ice during the year were less than in 1907 by about 93 tons. On the other hand, earnings derived from cold storage show a satisfactory increase, and our net revenue is only some \$1,500 less than for the previous year. Coolie quarters at the town property have been renewed and extended and all coolies employed at the depot are now housed on the premises. Among your assets you will notice a mortgage loan in Yokohama of \$25,000. As in the opinion of your Auditor it was somewhat doubtful if the Articles of Association permitted such an investment, the money has since the closing of the accounts been refunded, and I am pleased to say the course of exchange has enabled us to make a small profit on the transfer. Last year your Chairman referred to an arrangement made with the Hongkong Milling Co. for the purchase of their surplus supplies of ice, but as you are aware the Company is now in liquidation and the arrangement has not materialized. We had a short time ago a similar proposal from the Oriental Brewing Company, but as their product does not, in our opinion, equal ours we declined their offer. We again ask you, Gentlemen, to sanction the transfer of \$30,000 from profits to provision for contingencies, and, if this meets with your approval, we will have a sum of \$150,000 available to meet opposition. The policy of building up this fund is now simply justified, for we have not only the Oriental Brewing Company to compete with, but have also in the smaller market of Macao to face competition from two small plants erected during the year. We naturally regret the necessity for fighting these new enterprises, which must for a time affect our earnings, but I do not think, Gentlemen, that you need be unduly anxious as to the ultimate result. If any further information be desired I shall be pleased to afford it before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. GEDGE—I beg to second the motion. You have all read the report and it speaks for itself, and you have also heard the speech of the General Manager. I think we can congratulate ourselves on the report which is before the meeting and upon the dividends which this Company continues to pay. There are very few companies in the Far East which pay like this Company does, and I think we can congratulate ourselves upon the way the Company is managed by the General Managers. With these few remarks I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts.

The motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. LEEFE, Mr. A. R. Lowe was re-appointed auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants, gentlemen, can be had on application on Monday. I am much obliged to you for your attendance.

#### HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

The twenty-fifth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in this Company was held at the company's office, on Saturday. Mr Robert Shewan presided and there were, also present:—Dr. J. W. Noble, Messrs H. P. White, D. W. Craddock (Directors), Messrs C. Klinck, H. R. B. Hancock, H. C. R. Hancock, J. A. Young, the Rev. M. Longridge and Mr L. F. Campbell (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen:—Printed copies of the report and accounts now laid before you have been in your hands for some time past, so they need not be read now. We are able to pay our usual dividend and to place \$20,000 to reserve fund in spite of the fact that the price of rope has again fallen since this time last year. On the other hand, I am glad to say that the cost of raw material has also come down to more reasonable figures, while the quality shows an improvement. Our actual sales have not been as large as usual, but this is only to be expected in a time of such depression for shipping as that we have passed through, when some of our best customers have had to lay up their vessels for want of employment. We have, however, seen the worst and may now look forward with confidence to a better demand for all commodities such as ours. There is nothing in the accounts that calls for comment that I can see, but if any shareholder has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. H. P. WHITE seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Rev. M. LONGRIDGE, seconded by Mr. KLINCK, Messrs. H. P. White, D. W. Craddock and Dr. J. W. Noble were re-elected as a consulting committee.

On the motion of Mr. D. W. CRADDOCK, seconded by Dr. J. W. NOBLE, Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. O'D. Gourdin were re-elected as auditors.

The CHAIRMAN:—That is all the business, gentlemen. I am much obliged for your attendance. Dividend warrants are ready.

#### SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED.

The Twentieth Annual Meeting of the above company was held at the company's offices in Shanghai on the 17th inst. There were present: Messrs. E. Jenner Hogg (Chairman), J. M. Young, C. W. Wrightson, H. R. Kinnear (Directors) B. G. Holt, H. J. Clark, J. Valentine, L. Kerr, C. D. Kerr, G. S. Lindsay, A. Dallas, W. Carlsen, D. M. Gubbay, W. B. Buyers, Cummins and P. Peebles (Secretary).

The Chairman—Gentlemen, as there is a quorum present, I propose that Mr. Peebles act as Secretary to the meeting, and I shall ask him to read the notice convening the meeting.

This having been done—

The Chairman—The Report and accounts have been in your hands for some time and with your permission we will take them as read. I am very glad to be able to congratulate shareholders on the continued satisfactory working of the Company. We have passed through a year of considerable stress but we still show results that I am sure must gratify you. We keep up the same dividend and bonus as last year while we propose to fortify our position by passing to "Equalization of Dividend Fund" such a substantial sum as will further consolidate the strong position we have already attained and ensure our dividends even if evil days should come. We also carry forward a large balance—we believe that we ought to do this and that you will heartily approve of our doing so in view of the possibilities turning out unfavourably during 1909. Turning to the year:—Our rentals have increased by nearly Tls. 39,000, but on the other hand some of our expenses have been heavy. Taxes are largely



increased and we have had to meet a considerable number of repairs, due in many cases to changing tenants. We have improved the lighting on some of our properties and that item is consequently increased. Fire Insurance amounts to more, our building extends, and management expenses are higher owing to additional remuneration to the agents, to salaries increasing with terms of service, and to sundries incidental to the growth of our business.

Interest Account is the difference between payments of interest on debentures and overdraft on one side, and receipts from mortgages on the other. It is about Tls. 4,000 less than last year, as the amount of mortgage has been somewhat reduced.

Profit and Loss Account you will find credited with Tls. 290,000, the profit on the sale of part of No. 1 Estate, and with Premiums on Debentures sold recently. On the other side is a debit under this heading as earlier last year Debentures generally were in less demand and were sold at a discount. The item of Tls. 2,012.48 is the premium on certain half shares left over from the last issue and sold, the amount received being paid over to the shareholders entitled thereto.

Reserve Fund is increased to Tls. 1,523,045.72 by the transfer authorized at our last Meeting of Tls. 653,552.21 being the premium on the new issue of Capital. This Fund has reached such proportions (it is equal to nearly 40 per cent. of our Capital), that we see no reason to make further addition to it at present.

"The Reserve Fund for The Equalization of Dividends" will, if you approve our proposal be brought up to the substantial sum of Tls. 300,000, and will be available at any time for the maintenance of our dividends in case of such need.

The Balance Sheet shows the cost of our various properties up to date and I may mention that we have expended during the year about:—

Tls. 36,000 on land.  
394,000 on new buildings.  
25,000 on raising land.

All of which is satisfactory outlay.

Our mortgages amounting to Tls. 2,579,412.20 are all fully covered. As to the future we are proceeding in all respects very cautiously waiting to see how this year will develop, but as far as we are concerned we have no cause for the slightest apprehension.

If anyone has any questions to ask I shall be very pleased to answer them to the best of my ability before proposing the resolution.

There being no questions the following resolutions were put to the meeting and adopted unanimously:

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Young: that the report and accounts as presented be accepted and passed.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Wrightson: that the Directors be authorized to pay a final dividend for the year 1908 of 6 per cent. and a bonus of 4 per cent. on the paid-up capital to shareholders on the register at this day.

Proposed by Mr. A. Dallas, seconded by Mr. H. J. Clark: that Mr. C. W. Wrightson be re-elected a director of the company.

Proposed by Mr. L. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Carlsen: that Mr. G. R. Wingrove be re-elected auditor.

The Chairman—Gentlemen, that is all the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be posted to shareholders.

### OUTRAGE IN KOWLOON.

Another occurrence which might have eventuated into a case of armed robbery or a determined attack upon life took place at Kowloon on the 22nd inst. A boy named Chan Ko Shan, in the employ of Captain Spink at 5 Lochiel Terrace, Cameron Road, Kowloon reports that about seven o'clock in answer to the ringing of the bell he opened the door and was attacked by two men, one of whom threw pepper in his eyes. The boy called out for assistance, and Mr. Lee, occupier of the next house, came to the rescue and succeeded in arresting one of the assailants, the other escaping. Nothing was stolen but there were found an iron bar, a quantity of pepper, a quantity of wire and a pocket book. The police are making investigations.

### ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, KOWLOON.

A notable event in the short history of this church took place last night when the chaplain's house, built and furnished by Sir Paul Chater, was formally presented by Mr. Bryer, the architect, in the absence of Sir Paul Chater. At present the congregation is without a chaplain, the services being meanwhile taken by the local clergy, but in September the Rev. H. O. Spink will take over the charge. An appeal has just been addressed to residents in Kowloon on behalf of St. Andrew's Church, in which it is stated that two friends have kindly promised a supply of new hymn books, that an endeavour is being made to provide front desks for the choir stalls at an early date, and that Sir Paul Chater, in addition to his munificent gift of a handsome parsonage, has generously provided new electric light standards for the approaches to the Church. The Bishop of Victoria also writes a letter to residents in Kowloon, pointing out that the "seven gentlemen who were appointed by the annual meeting of seatholders and subscribers to constitute the Vestry for 1909 will gladly do all in their power to provide for the upkeep of the Church and the orderly and reverent arrangement of the services," and expressing his confidence that they will have the hearty support of English-speaking people in the District.

After those in attendance had inspected the building, and Mr. Bryer had concluded the dedication service, the blessing of His Lordship the Bishop, "Peace be unto this house," etc; followed.

The Kowloon School, which adjoins the building, was then thrown open to those in attendance. There an excellent musical programme was gone through, and light refreshments were provided.

### A POLICEMAN'S DEATH.

At the Magistracy yesterday M. J. H. Kemp, sitting as coroner conducted an inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of William Tyrrell, a Naval Yard policeman, who was missed from his beat on the 31st January and whose dead body was found floating in the harbour on the 9th inst. The jury was composed of Messrs T. Neaves, M. Manuk, and J. Manners.

Staff Surgeon Baiss spoke to having examined the body which was very much decomposed. He believed that death was due to drowning.

Sergt. Thomson of the Naval Yard Police stated that he saw deceased on his beat that night more than once and saw that he was perfectly sober. When deceased did not put in an appearance shortly after midnight, as he should have done, witness sent an Indian sergeant to look for him. He returned and reported that he could not see the deceased whereupon witness and Sergt. Taylor instituted a search, but, although they kept it up till four o'clock, they could find no trace of him.

By a jurymen—Was there any examination made in order to ascertain if there were any loose planks or any dangerous place in his beat?—Yes. We examined the wells and other places in the dock but without success.

Sergt. Taylor said he identified the body of the deceased at the Naval Mortuary on the 9th inst.

Lance Sergt. Pitt, of the Hongkong Police stated that about 11 a.m. on the 9th inst. he proceeded to North Point where he saw at Fenwick's Reclamation the dead body of a European floating close to the shore. He was fully dressed in the uniform of the Naval Yard police. The cap however was missing. Witness had the body removed to the Naval Mortuary. In a pocket was found \$6.20 and another contained his note book. He made inquiries and found deceased was not in financial difficulties.

His Worship said deceased might have fallen into the water when chasing sampan people. There was nothing to suggest suicide.

The jury found that deceased met his death by drowning.

The name of Mr. Lam Tsz Fung has been added to the list of Chinese practitioners, trained in Western medical science, who are authorised to grant death certificates.

### DEATH OF MR. HAVER DROEZE.

We greatly regret to record the death of Mr. F. J. Haver Droeze who for many years was Consul-General for the Netherlands in Hongkong, and had recently been appointed Minister for the Netherlands at Peking. Mr. Droeze left Hongkong in ill-health more than a year ago, and he died last month at Dordrecht, where he was temporarily residing. It was while he was at Home on leave, we believe, that Mr. Droeze was offered, and accepted, the post of Minister at Peking and his many friends in Hongkong will regret that he has not lived to take up the appointment.

Mr. Droeze was formerly in the Colonial Army. His first appointment as Consul was at Djeddah. He was appointed Consul-General at Hongkong in 1895 and held the appointment down to the close of 1908. His work here was evidently greatly appreciated by his Government for Mr. Droeze was the only Consular official in the service of the country who has been given a diplomatic appointment.

### A HAT TRICK.

Trying to work another hat trick than that known to cricketers brought about a native's downfall at Yaumati on Feb. 18th. The defendant, accompanied by a friend, entered a draper's shop in Station Street with the object of purchasing some clothing. The counter hand was asked to place a variety of articles on the counter for the inspection of the intending purchasers, and after an examination the defendant decided to buy a panama hat and a number of other small articles. In the hat, however, he had concealed three pairs of trousers while the shopman's back was turned, and he was successful in getting away from the shop unmolested with the stolen property. But very little time elapsed before the counter hand became aware of the theft, and he immediately informed the police. The defendant was arrested later with the stolen trousers in his possession, was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy yesterday, found guilty, and sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment.

### THE NEW SHANGHAI CLUB.

The ceremony of laying the corner stone of the new Shanghai Club took place on the 16th inst. There was a very large attendance of members and guests, and the weather was at its best for this historic occasion. The corner-stone was placed in position at the North-East corner of the reinforced concrete platform, upon a small staging which was gaily decorated with flags and bunting. A cinematograph was busy while the spectators were assembling, and also during the actual ceremony, and many cameras were also in evidence. Sir Pelham Warren, whose carriage was escorted by a detachment of mounted police, arrived shortly after noon, and was received by Mr. W. A. C. Platt and Mr. A. M. Marshall, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Club Committee, Mr. Tarrant, the architect of the new building and the Committee. Mr. Platt, in a speech gave a short history of the old Club House. The foundation stone was laid some time in 1861 and the architect was a Mr. Charles St. George Cleverly, the colonial Surveyor at that time of Hongkong, who received as remuneration for his services no more than \$250—a very inadequate remuneration. "We pay our architects better now," said Mr. Platt. The building was finished in 1864 and the cost, Tls. 85,000, far exceeded what the shareholders had estimated.

Sir Pelham Warren laid the foundation stone of the new Club House which Mr. Platt said would be second to none in the Far East.

The stone bore the following inscription:—

This stone was laid on February 16th 1909 by Sir Pelham Warren, K.C.M.G., in the presence of Messrs. W. A. C. Platt, Chairman, A. M. Marshall, Vice-Chairman, R. Carr, A. H. Collison, W. D. Graham, Henriot, C. O. Liddell, J. McKie, G. Miller, C. Selby Moore, J. R. Patterson, F. Rayde, the Committee and the members of the Club. Messrs. Tarrant and Morris, architects, Shanghai, Messrs. Howarth Erskine, Ltd., Contractors, Shanghai, and Captain C. G. Close, Secretary.



## THE OPIUM COMMISSION.

The seventh session opened at 10.30 a.m. on the 15th ult.

A report dealing with the Opium question as it concerns Italy was presented by Signor Faraone. The Netherlands Report then came up for discussion, after which the Chief Commissioner for Japan in reply to questions put by Mr. R. Laidlaw, M.P., gave a series of statistics covering the sale of Opium Paste, the Commission of Opium, and the Revenue derived therefrom in Formosa.

Mr. Tang Kuo-an, replying to questions put to the Chinese Delegation at the last sitting by Sir Alexander Hosie, quoted figures from the Japanese Report on Formosa in support of the Chinese estimates of the percentage of smokers to the population, and stated that the further information asked for would be supplied as soon as it could be obtained.

The Chief Commissioner for the Netherlands, Mr. de John, then read a statement comprising the declared policy of his Government, which is to gradually reduce the consumption of Opium in Netherlands-India.

The Commission adjourned at 12.15 p.m. On re-assembling at 2.30 p.m. there was brief discussion on the Austro-Hungarian report, and Dr. Rossler asked the Delegate for Austria-Hungary to obtain particulars as to the use of Opium in the Austrian concession at Tientsin. The Persian report was held over for discussion until the question of the production of Opium generally comes before the Commission.

A proposal made by Dr. Rossler that a Committee should be appointed to consider existing International Agreements on the opium traffic was accepted; and there followed a discussion as to the scope of enquiry generally to which the Commission should confine itself.

The Commission adjourned at 3.45 p.m. until Thursday, the 18th February.

The eighth session of the Commission opened at 10.30 a.m. on the 18th February. After the President had announced the names of the delegates appointed as a Committee on International Agreements affecting the traffic in Opium, Mr. Mackenzie King presented a Report on the Opium question in Canada.

The Chinese report then came up for discussion, but elicited no further remarks.

Monsieur Cornillon, on behalf of the Revenue Committee, described the lines of investigation which it was proposed to follow, and pointed out the necessity for reducing all statistics to uniform units. For example, it was suggested that all monies should be reduced to English currency, and that measures of surface, weight, etc., should be expressed in metrical terms. All figures furnished should cover the years 1913/7. Some doubt was expressed by delegates as to the possibility of changing returns for fiscal periods into statistics for the calendar years.

Discussion ensued on a suggestion made by Mr. Tang Kuo-an, that a Committee should be appointed to investigate the subject of Anti-opium remedies and to determine the means of curing the Opium habit without recourse to the actual drug or any of its derivatives. No decision was arrived at, and the matter was left over for further discussion.

The Japanese and American delegates put a number of questions with reference to the Persian and Indian reports respectively, answers to which will be laid on the table at the next sitting.

The Commission adjourned at noon until the 19th instant at 10.30 a.m.

The ninth session of the Commission opened at 10.30 a.m. on the 19th ult. with a renewal of the discussion on Mr. Tang Kuo-an's proposition, that a committee should be appointed to consider the medical aspects of the opium question, and the best means of curing the opium habit without recourse to the actual drug or its derivatives.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith expressed sympathy with the object which Mr. Tang had in view, and stated that he was not opposed to any practical inquiry into the subject; but he considered that the Commission did not possess amongst its members a sufficient

number of scientific men to form a committee of the kind suggested by Mr. Tang, and the investigation from a medical point of view of anti-opium remedies and of the properties and effects of opium and its products should be recommended by each Delegation to its own Government. He moved an amendment to this effect.

Dr. Rossler and H. E. Tsunezire Miyaoka, supporting Mr. Tang's proposition, considered that their labours would be incomplete were the Commission to include no reference in its report to the medical aspect of the opium question. Eventually, the amendment moved by the Rt. Hon. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith was adopted by the Commission.

After the Japanese and British Delegations had replied to questions put by Dr. Hamilton Wright and Dr. Tenney, Monsieur Ratard, the Chief Commissioner for France, explained his attitude with regard to Mr. Tang's proposition. He quoted the correspondence between the United States and the French Government, and pointed out that there was no suggestion therein regarding the study of the Opium question from a medical point of view. He understood that the subject was to be considered by the Commission purely from a commercial and administrative standpoint; consequently he agreed with the Rt. Hon. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith as to the advisability of leaving the medical aspect of the opium problem to be investigated by the highest scientific and medical authorities of the two hemispheres.

The Commission adjourned at 11.40 a.m. until Monday the 22nd instant.

SHANGHAI, February 22nd.

A brief report dealing with the production and sale of Opium in Holland, based on information received by telegraph, was presented by the Chief Commissioner for the Netherlands, Mr. A. A. de Jongh. The Chief Commissioner for Great Britain, in reply to questions put by the American Delegation at a former sitting, read a telegram which he had received giving details as to the ultimate disposal of the net imports of crude Opium into the United Kingdom. He was followed by H. E. Mr. Miyaoka, who gave some particulars concerning the import and consumption of Opium, the number of divans, etc., in Kuantung territory.

The printed reports for Portugal, Siam and the United States were distributed, and declared by the Chair to be before the House for consideration. Some questions having been asked and answered, the Committee appointed to deal with International Agreements covering the Opium traffic reported progress.

Copies of resolutions which the British and American Delegation intended to submit to the Commission having been distributed, the President addressed the House. He stated that the prime object of the Commission had now been reached, and he proceeded to indicate certain principles and considerations of importance anent the discussion of the Resolutions which would be their final task. He opined that the results of the Commission were bound to be far-reaching and to have a two-fold character, direct and indirect. They would take shape eventually in some kind of formal action on the part of the various Governments represented, and they would also be productive of sentiment, which had been, and would always be, the final arbiter of all great questions. He considered that from the evidence before them it would be possible to reach wise conclusions, and he hoped that the Commission would pass worthy and practical resolutions on the important problem before them, otherwise the question might be thrown back into the hands of agitators, a result which they would all wish to avoid. He concluded by thanking the House for the fine temper and courteous spirit which had characterized the proceedings from the beginning.

February 23rd.

The Commission was occupied during the whole of its sitting in the consideration of Resolutions, based on a study of the Reports of the various Delegations, submitted by the American and British Commissioners. Of eight Resolutions put forward by the former, one was adopted *in toto*, one accepted after amendment, one was withdrawn, one was negative, and four were referred back for re-consideration. The British Delegation offered five resolutions, of which one was adopted as an amendment to a

Resolution submitted by the United States, two were accepted, one was withdrawn after discussion, and one referred back for consideration.

Further Resolutions are to be brought forward by the Chinese and Netherlands Commissioners at the next sitting. After they have met with the approval of the Commission, the Resolutions will be submitted to a Committee, for conversion into the form in which they will be finally presented to the respective Governments. The Commission adjourned at 4.40 p.m. It is anticipated that the labours of the Commission will terminate by the end of the first week in March.

February 24th.

H. E. Mr. Miyaoka, Chief Commissioner for Japan, offered some additional information in reply to a question put to his Delegation by Mr. R. Laidlaw, M.P., during the sixth session, relative to the regulations in force with regard to opium in the leased territory of Kuantung.

Two resolutions brought forward conjointly by the American and British Delegation, and embodying the sense of those Resolutions which were referred back for re-consideration at the last meeting, were, after a short discussion, unanimously adopted by the Commission.

The Netherlands brought forward two Resolutions, amplifying in some ways those already accepted by the House. They were criticized by the Chief Commissioner for Great Britain, and by Mr. Tang Kuo-an, on behalf of the Chinese Delegation. Finally, on the suggestion of Dr. Hamilton Wright and Mr. Miyaoka, it was decided to incorporate the contents of the Resolutions in question as a Statement in the Minutes.

Mr. Tang Kuo-an then made an eloquent speech in support of four Resolutions which will, to-day, be placed before the Commission by the Chinese Delegation.

## COLLISION AT CHINKIANG.

A HULK SUNK.

News reached Shanghai last week from Chinkiang that a serious collision had occurred at that port between the chartered H. A. L. steamer *Ascania*, commanded by Captain Gertz, who is also the owner, and the H. A. L. Hulk *Bremen*, which was in charge of Captain A. Lange, an old employee of the company. The *Ascania*, says the *Mercury* report, was coming down river from Wuhu with a full cargo of rice bound to Canton and southern ports. When Chinkiang was reached the ship slowed down and began to swing, in order to anchor or go alongside the *Bremen*, as she had to exchange her river pass. From what can be learned, it seems something went wrong with the steering gear and the vessel refusing to answer her helm, crashed into the bow of the *Bremen*, tearing the hulk from her moorings, when she drifted down and sank in deep water nearly opposite Geddes and Co.'s hulk. The *Ascania* as the result of the collision suffered some damage about the bows, full particulars of which are not yet to hand. The first news received stated that there had been a heavy loss of life among the Chinese on the hulk, but the latest advices received by Messrs. Melchers and Co. report that there was no loss of life at all. The hulk, which was full of cargo, will be a total loss as she is sunk in about forty feet of water.

News has reached the East of the death of the Rev William S. Ament, D.D., a well-known missionary of the American Board. He came to China in 1877 and spent most of his time in Peking, where he was identified with a wide range of public interests. He was a conspicuous figure during and after the siege in Peking, both for courage and enterprise. At the Centenary Missionary Conference of 1907 he was Chairman of the Committee of Comity and Federation. For some time past his health had been failing and in December he was removed to America in a semi-unconscious state for a surgical operation. He died of cerebral affection at San Francisco last month. Dr. Ament leaves a wife, who accompanied him on this sad journey, and a son who will shortly graduate from Oberlin College, Ohio.



## HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

## THE OFF DAY RACES.

Saturday was the off day, and although the card only contained five events, the attendance of the public was large indeed. Good sport was witnessed and the surprise of the afternoon was the victory of Posiedon in the last race. Schnorr, who, despite his many successes in the North, having failed to bring off a win until the final effort. The programme was carried out with the same smoothness and orderliness which characterised the entire meeting. Details of the various events are appended:

THE "LUCKY" CUP.—Value \$250. Presented. For all Subscription Griffins that have run at this Meeting and not won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Unplaced runners allowed 5 lb. Entrance \$10 to go to Second Pony. Half a mile.

Mr Humphrey's Sir Joseph 11st 11b (Mr Dupree) 1  
Capt Barker's Shaun Aboo 10st 12lb (Capt Heathcote) 2  
Mr John Peel's Dunkerry 11st 4lb (Mr Gresson) 3  
Mr Olympia's Hippomedon 10st 7lb (Mr Schnorr) 0  
Mr Olympia's Heracles 10st 13lb (Mr Jordan) 0  
Admiral Lambton's Horatio 10st 4lb (Mr Mackie) 0  
Mr S. V.'s Chicory 10st 10lb (Mr Oliver) 0  
Mr Scarlett's White Knight 10st 7lb (Mr Scarlett) 0  
Mr Chichester's Jack Straw 10st 7lb (Mr Chichester) 0  
Messrs R. R. Hynd and A. C. Hyne's Bagih Dua 10st 10lb (Mr Morris) 0  
Mr Christiani's Droschkengaul 10st 10lb (Mr Pettersen) 0  
Mr F. C. R. Studd's Butcher 10st 12lb (Mr Hickman) 0  
Mr Humphrey's Resignation 10st 12lb (owner) 0  
Mr D. Macdonald's Highland Laddie 10st 12lb (Mr Vida) 0  
Mr Elbee's Regret 10st 13lb (Mr Roberts) 0  
Mr Ottery's Torridge 10st 8lb (Hon. Mr May) 0

Highland Laddie led from the start from Regret, but Sir Joseph displaced the latter at the incline. Regret again claimed his position at the village, but Sir Joseph came on in fine style in the straight and beat the field, winning by two lengths from Shaun Aboo.

Time—1.01.

Cash sweeps, \$683.55, \$195.30, \$97.65.

Parimutuel—winner \$27; placed ponies, \$9.70, \$152.00, \$12.20.

THE "LITTLE GEM" CUP.—Presented. For all Griffins that have run at this Meeting and not won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription Griffins that have run at this Meeting and been placed second allowed 3lb. those that have been placed third allowed 5lb. Unplaced Subscription Griffins allowed 10lb. Off-day Winner barred. Entrance \$10 to go to Second Pony. From the Two Mile Post Once round and in.

Mr John Peel's Garth 11st 4lb (Mr Gresson) 0  
Messrs Findlay and Moir's Strathdallas 11st 4lb (Mr Vida) 0

The horses kept together all the way until the village bend where Garth obtained a slight lead and gradually increasing it in the straight walked home an easy winner.

Time—2.24.

Cash sweeps \$1,532.25 and \$510.75. Parimutuel—winner \$8.10; place \$7.70.

THE VISITORS' CUP.—Value \$250. Presented. For all China ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Unplaced ponies and bona fide Griffins on date of entry allowed 5lb. Subscription Griffins of this season allowed 10 lb. Allowances not accumulative. Off-day Winners barred. Entrance \$10 to go to Second Pony. One Mile and a quarter.

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb 10st 12lb (Mr Dupree) 0  
Hon. Mr. May's Astral (owner) 0  
Another fiasco. Coxcomb led from the start and made the pace all the way till the incline when Astral closed up a little and Coxcomb was

whipped into the straight and reached home with several lengths to spare.

Time—2.40 2-5.

Cash sweeps, \$168 7.50 and \$562.50 Parimutuel—winner \$6.40; place \$6.50.

THE "BARRY" CUP.—Presented. For Subscription Griffins of this Season that have run at this Meeting and not won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have not had more than two winning mounts in Hongkong, Shanghai, or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 7lb. Off-day Winners barred. Entrance \$10 to go to Second Pony. One Mile.

Mr Ottery's Tamar 10st 12, 7lb allowance (Mr Vida) 1  
Capt Barker's Shaun Aboo 10st 8, 7lb allowance (Mr Heathcote) 2  
Mr Gibbon Moore's Lyemun 10st 8lb, 7lb allowance (owner) 3  
Mr J. S. Sill's Gambler 10st 9, 7lb allowance and 1lb overweight (Mr Hickman) 0  
Mr Scarlett's White Knight 10st 7lb allowance and 2lb overweight (owner) 0  
Mr J. H. Lewis' Bystander 11st 1lb (Mr Dupree) 0  
Mr Wheeley's Pip 10st 11lb (Mr Morris) 0  
Mr C. H. Ross's Ben Alder 10st 13, 5lb allowance (Mr May) 0

Tamar was favourite and justified the popular confidence. Shaun Aboo led at the start from Lyemun with Tamar third. At the Village bend Lyemun assumed the lead, but was challenged in the straight by Tamar, who won by several lengths from Shaun Aboo.

Time—2.10.

Cash sweeps, \$1,934.10, \$552.60 and \$276.30. Parimutuel—Winner \$12.60 placed ponies \$580, \$ 5 70 and \$6.

THE "ROSE" CUP.—Presented. For all China Ponies that have run at this Meeting and not won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription Griffins allowed 7lb. Off-day Winners barred. Entrance \$10 to go to Second Pony. Seven furlongs.

Mr Olympia's Posiedon, 10st 12lb (Mr Schnorr) 1  
Mr Brutton's Kingston 11st 1lb (Mr Vida) 2  
Major Eaton's Game Chick 10st 12lb (Mr Scarlett) 3  
Mr John Peel's Cattistock 10st 10lb 5lbs allowance (Mr Gresson) 0  
Mr Dryasdust's Earthquake 10st 9lb (Mr Dupree) 0

Lient. Leeson's Soudan 11st 1lb (owner) 0  
This was the surprise of the day, Posiedon, the outsider, winning from several determined rivals. After the ponies had travelled to the incline on the return journey Cattistock took the lead, the remainder bunching, but on entering the straight Posiedon, who had been showing his paces all the way, challenged successfully, and reached home with Kingston just on his quarters.

Time—1.51 2/5.

Cash sweeps, \$2179.80, \$622.80, and \$311.40. Parimutuel—winner, \$97.10 placed ponies, \$21, \$9.50, \$21.

## BUFFS' REGIMENTAL MEETING.

## SUCCESSFUL GYMKHANA.

Very successful indeed was the gymkhana promoted by the officers of the Buffs. They received the permission of the stewards of the Jockey Club to hold the meeting on the Race Course, and as their venture was managed by capable stewards there was little doubt as to the result. Of course the weather might have been more favourable but notwithstanding the adverse conditions there was a good gathering, which included H. E. the Governor and Miss Henniker. The turf was not so heavy as might have been expected, and on the whole the exhibition of sport was decidedly good. The entries were much above the average at such meetings, and large fields were the order of the afternoon.

The stewards were Lient. Colonel Byard, D.S.O., Major W. A. Eaton, Major H. Findlay, Mr. H. W. Green, Mr. H. B. Potter and the Hon. P. G. Scarlett. The other officials were Judges: Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton

and Major-General R. G. Broadwood; starters, the Hon. Mr. F. H. May and Mr. T. F. Hough; clerk of the scales, Mr. H. P. White; clerk of the course, Major W. A. Eaton; hon. secretary, Mr. H. W. Green.

The Buffs Band earned golden opinions by the attractive selections they rendered during the afternoon.

Results are appended:

THE POLO SCURRY.—A sweepstake of \$5 for starters. For bona fide China Polo Ponies to be certified by the Hon. Secretary, Hongkong Polo Club. Catch weights 11st 7lbs. To be ridden by Members of the Hongkong Polo Club—Three furlongs.

Major Findlay's Billy 11st 7lb (Com. Lyon) 1  
Capt. R. Campbell-Heathcote's Lancaster 11st 7lb (owner) 2  
Mr D. Maxwell's Cavalier 11st 7lb (Mr Balderstone) 3  
Capt. S. Barker's Killaloe 11st 7lb (owner) 0  
Capt. G. T. Brierley's Catalan Bay 11st 7lb (owner) 0

Comd'r Campbell's The Ditch 11st 8lb (owner) 0  
Mr J. Crookenden's Resolution 11st 8lb (owner) 0  
Mr C. E. G. Davidson's Breadsauce 11st 7lb (Captain Wilkin) 0  
Mr W. B. Elwee's Kirkdale 12st (owner) 0  
Major Findlay's Polo Stick 12st 6lb (Mr Blatherstick) 0

Capt. G. F. C. Finch's Bonny Boy 11st 7lb (owner) 0  
Hon Mr W. J. Gresson's Birthday 11st 7lb (owner) 0  
Mr H. M. Leipman's Silverlake 11st 7lb (owner) 0

Dr. Noble's Glenlui 11st 7lb (Mr Dupree) 0  
Dr. Noble's Kirkpatrick 11st 7lb (Mr Mackie) 0

Mr Potters Haybag 11st 7lb (Owner) 0  
Mr H. D. Collinson Marley's Kirkmahae 11st (Mr Scarlett) 0

The winner led all the way and won comfortably. Time 46-2/5. Parimutuel \$127.60. Cash sweep \$255.15, \$72.90, \$36.45.

THE REGIMENTAL CUP.—Presented by the Residents, Harrismith, O.R.C., with a sweepstake of \$5 for starters. For China Ponies the property of Officers, The Buffs. Weight for inches as per Jockey Club scale, raised 7lbs. To be ridden by Officers of the Regiment. Penalties: Winners once at Hongkong Meeting, 1909, 7lbs., twice 10lbs., three times or oftener 14lbs.—Once round.

Major Eaton's Game Chick 11st 6lb (Col. Bayard) 1  
Mr Studd's Butcher 11st 5lb (Mr Potter) 2  
Mr J. S. Sill's Gambler 11st 8lb (Mr Brice) 3  
Mr G. Q. Henriques' Grey Back 12st 1lb (Owner) 0  
Mr E. B. Chichester's Jack Straw 11st 11lb (Mr Crickenden) 0  
Major Findlay's White Bait 11st 3lb (Mr Davidson) 0  
Captain Barker's Shaun Aboo 11st 9lb (Owner) 0  
Hon. P. G. Scarlett's Baluchi Chief 11st 5lb (Owner) 0

The field got off well, with Game Chick in the van. Butcher was on his flanks all the way, but though the distance was lessened at the incline, the Colonel won comfortably. Time, 2.03. Parimutuel, \$25.50. Cash sweeps, \$510.50, \$145.80 and \$72.90.

THE JOCKEY CLUB PLATE.—A piece of plate presented by the Officers, The Buffs, added to a sweepstake of \$10 for starters. For China ponies the property of the members of the Hongkong Jockey Club. Weight for inches as per Hongkong Jockey Club scale. Penalties: Winners at Hongkong Meeting, 1909, once 7lbs., twice or oftener 14lbs. To be ridden by members of the Hongkong Jockey Club. One and a half miles.

Mr. Buxey's Celia Rose 11st (Mr Vida) 1  
Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb 10st 12lb (Mr Dupree) 2  
Hon. W. J. Gresson's Garth 11st 4lb (Owner) 3  
Mr. Runbeck's Maryland 11st 5lb (Mr Hansen) 0



Celia Rose and Coxcomb set out in company, this order being maintained first time round the course, but past the stand the leaders detached themselves from Garth and varyland, the latter being completely out of the race. On the incline Celia Rose shot ahead and drew away from Coxcomb, Garth coming up well in the straight. The Rose won in a canter. Time 3.16 4-5. Parimutuel \$12.70. Cash sweep \$614.25; \$175.50 and \$87.75.

**THE UNITED SERVICE CUP.** A Cup presented by the Officers. The Buffs, added to a sweepstake of \$10 for starters. For China Ponies the bona fide property of Officers of the Navy and Army, South China. Weight for inches as Hongkong Jockey Club Scale. Penalties: Winners at Hongkong Meeting, 1909, once 7lbs., twice or oftener 14lbs. To be ridden by Officers of the Navy and Army. —Once round.

Admiral Lambton's Kamranh 11st 1lb (Capt. Heathcote) 1  
Mr Gibbon Moore's Lyemun 11st 1lb (Owner) 2  
Messrs Leah and Moore's Sportsman (I. Volga) 11-5lb (Capt Leah) 3  
Cpt. Baird and Mr Davidson's Mummery 11-6lb (Capt Brierley) 0  
Major Findlay's Shandygraft 11st 4lb (Com. Lyon) 0  
Mr S. V's Chicory 11st (Mr Scarlett) 0  
Mr J. S. Sill's Gambler 11st 1lb (Mr Brice) 0  
Commodore Lyon's Faiz Ullah 10st 12lb (Mr Campbell) 0

After several false starts, the bunch got well away with Lyemun in the front, accompanied by Kamranh. At the incline Sportsman drew into second place, but could not hold it. Lyemun again followed Kamranh and made a determined spurt for home but without avail. Time 2-01. Parimutuel \$11.30. Cash sweeps \$699.30, \$198.80, \$99.80.

**THE SUBALTERN'S CUP.**—Added to a sweepstake of \$5 for starters. For China Ponies the property of Subalterns, The Buffs. Weights and penalties as for Regimental Cup. Winner of Regimental Cup 7lbs extra. To be ridden by Subalterns, The Buffs.—Five Furlongs.

Mr F. C. R. Studd's Butcher 11st 5lb (Mr Potter) 1  
Mr G. Q. Henriques' Grey Back 12st 1lb (Owner) 2  
The Hon. P. G. Scarlett's Baluchi Chief 11st 5lb (Owner) 3  
Mr E. B. Chichester's Sahib 11st 2lb (Owner) 3  
Mr J. S. Sill's Popoff 11st 8lb (Mr Brice) 0  
Mr H. W. Green's Minnow 12st 5lb (Owner) 0  
Mr B. P. Wedd's Nutmeg Grater 11st 11lb (Owner) 0  
Mr J. Crookenden's Resolution 11st 8lb (Owner) 0

Sahib led all the way till the village when Butcher successfully challenged, and, slipping into the rails romped home with two lengths to spare. There was a struggle for third position, Sahib and White finishing a dead heat. Time 1-22½. Parimutuel \$11-20. Cash sweeps \$721.35, \$206.10, and \$103.05.

**THE LADIES' BRACELET.**—For China Ponies the bona fide property of Officers. Navy and Army, South China, and to be nominated by a Lady residing in the Colony. Weight for inches as per Hongkong Jockey Club, scale raised 7lbs. Penalties: Winners, this day, once 10lbs., twice or oftener 14lbs. To be ridden by Officers of the Navy and Army. Entrance Fee \$5. Five Furlongs.

Mr Leeson's Soudan 11st 8lb (Owner) 1  
Admiral Lambton's Kamranh 12st 4lb (Mr Heathcote) Nominated by Mrs Beer 2  
Major W. A. Eaton's Game Chick 12st 1lb (Col. Bayard) Nominated by Mrs Eaton 3  
Mr D. Maxwell Cavalier 11st 8lb (Mr Balderston) Nominated by Mrs McFarlane 0  
Major Findlay's Polo Stick 11st 11lb (Mr Campbell) Nominated by Miss Lyon 0  
Mr Gibbon Moore Lyemun 11st 8lb (Mr Moore) Nominated by Miss Evans 0  
Mr S. V's Chicory 11st 8lb (Mr Oliver) Nominated by Miss Shelton Hooper 0  
Mr H. D. Collison-Morley's Kirkmahoe 11st (Capt Wilkin) Nominated by Mrs Collison Morley 0  
Major Findlay's Billy 12st 4lb (Com. Lyon) Nominated by Miss Lyon 0

Major Findlay's Whitebait 11st 8lb (Capt Fitzherbert) Nominated by Miss Lyon 0  
Messrs Leah and Moore's Sportsman (I. Volga) 11st 5lb (Capt Leah) Nominated by Mrs Chamier 0  
The Hon P. F. Scarlett's Baluchi Chief 11st 5lb (Owner) Nominated by Mrs Worthington 0  
Capt Baird and Mr Davidson's Mummery 11st 6lb (Capt Brierley) Nominated by Mrs Beasley 0  
Mr H.M. Liepman's Silver leg 11st 2lb (Owner) Nominated by Mrs Pike 0  
Cavalier led till entering the straight, when Kamranh took the lead, but Soudan who went into the race fresh was hard ridden by its owner and just beat Kamranh on the post by a neck, with Game Chick a good third. Time 1.20. Parimutuel \$19.60. Cash sweeps, \$787.50, \$225, and \$112.50.

#### SALE OF PONIES.

On Wednesday Messrs. Hughes and Hough held their annual sale of race ponies by public roup on the compound before the City Hall. Though the weather was unpropitious there was a fair attendance and bidding was brisk. The prices fetched were.

|                 |       |                 |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------|
| Backstay        | \$240 | Mr. Goldring    |
| Tamar           | 220   | Mr. Moore       |
| Gunduck         | 200   | Mr. Bryce       |
| Little Dot Rose | 160   | Mr. Gresson     |
| Fugitive II     | 50    | Mr. Roberts     |
| Seraph          | 145   | Mr. Davidson    |
| Cattistock      | 135   | Mr. Dupree      |
| Tedcott         | 135   | Mr. Mearns      |
| Double Zero     | 130   | Mr. Gedge       |
| Highland Laddie | 130   | Capt. Waite     |
| Cherub          | 130   | Major Eaton     |
| Desire          | 125   | Mr. Patterson   |
| Nutmeg          | 125   | Mr. Lack        |
| Bagih Dua       | 120   | Mr. Simcock     |
| Argyll          | 110   | Mr. Weaver      |
| Banksia Rose    | 110   | Capt. Brierley  |
| Four Hand       | 115   | Hon. Mr. May    |
| Regret          | 100   | Mr. Lack        |
| White Heather   | 100   | Mr. Blason      |
| Vine            | 100   | Major Eaton     |
| Sidier Dhu      | 100   | Capt. Brierley  |
| Gum Tree        | 100   | Major Eaton     |
| Little Nemo     | 80    | Mr. Kroner      |
| Swan            | 80    | Commodore Lyons |
| Abstainer       | 75    | Mr. Kikuchi     |
| Tor             | 65    | Mr. Weaver      |
| Torridge        | 60    | Mr. Gedge       |
| The Thief       | 50    | Major Eaton     |
| Waziri Chief    | 50    | Mr. Fitz Gerald |
| Horatio         | 50    | Mr. Gedge       |
| Droschkengaul   | 50    | Mr. Klimenack   |
| Sandstone       | 45    | Mr. Morris      |
| Strathmill      | 45    | Mr. Stevenson   |
| Chicane         | 45    | Mr. Gok         |
| Compton         | 45    | Mr. Lack        |
| Black Sheep     | 40    | Mr. Lack        |
| Constant        | 40    | Mr. Roberts     |
| Chaniicleer     | 35    | Mr. Lack        |
| Highland        | 35    | Mr. Fitz Gerald |
| Energy          | 35    | Mr. Roberts     |
| Bystander       | 30    | Mr. Clark       |
| Banzai          | 25    | Mr. Yaga        |

Withdrawn—Grey Back, Sidier Dhu, Clocksy, Dart, Sir Joseph, Kirton.

Not sold—Highland Heather, Killarney Rose, Seafoam, Strathdallas, Tavy, Mischief, Marble, Resignation, Bluenose, handygaff, Southdown II, Dragon, Cox.

#### THE HONGKONG PERJURY CASE.

##### THE APPEAL TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

The case of Chang Hang Kiu versus the Judges of the Supreme Court of Hongkong came before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on February 3rd.

This was an appeal, by special leave, from a judgment of the Supreme Court of Hongkong of May 16, 1906. The appeal was heard by Lord Macnaughten, Lord Atkinson, Lord Collins, and Sir Arthur Wilson.

Mr. E. H. Sharp (K.C. of the Hongkong Bar) and Mr. Macklin appeared for the appellants.

In November, 1905, an issue was ordered to be tried in the Supreme Court of Hongkong to determine whether one Wong Ka Chuen was, at the date of a petition in bankruptcy, a partner in the debtor firm. The trial of that

issue was held before the Chief Justice and a common jury on six days in April 1906. The Official Receiver was plaintiff and Wong Ka Chuen defendant. The appellants seven native of China) and one Wong Tse were called as witnesses for the plaintiff. The jury found for the defendant. Thereupon the Chief Justice ordered the eight witnesses to be called before him, and addressed them as follows:—"The eight witnesses have to my mind been guilty of the most flagrant conspiracy to defraud the alleged partner Wong Ka Chuen. They have each one been guilty of the most corrupt perjury, and in virtue of the provisions of the law which empowers me to deal at once with such cases (section 31 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1873). I commit each of them to prison for three months without hard labour." The seven appellants (the eighth witness, Wong Tse, being absent) served a fortnight of their sentences and were then released on bail pending appeals from the Chief Justice's order. Those appeals being unsuccessful, they now appealed, by special leave, to the Judicial Committee against the sentence. It was alleged on their behalf that before the sentence was passed on them they were not informed and did not know what statements of theirs constituted the alleged perjury and had no opportunity of being heard in their own defence and showing cause why they should not be committed. By the Ordinance in question—the appellants being dealt with "as for a contempt of Court"—they were entitled to that information and opportunity. In making the order of commitment in question the Judges had erroneously construed the terms of the Ordinance. It was further contended that the appellants' evidence was in fact true, and was corroborated by that of other witnesses. In any event, it was submitted, there had been an interruption of the due administration of the law and a departure from the fundamental principles of justice, involving, not only hardship on the appellants, but creating a precedent which, if followed, would have injurious operation in the colony.

At the close of the argument for the appellants—there being no appearance on the other side.

Lord Macnaughten said their Lordships would take time to consider their judgment.

#### THE DIRECTORY AND CHRONICLE FOR 1909.

One of our contemporaries in Japan has remarked that the position of this work of reference in the Far East, and for that matter throughout the commercial world, is too well known to need any fresh words of commendation. While we concur in this remark we bear in mind the fact that there are constant changes in the populations of the foreign centres of trade in the Far East, and it is more especially for the newcomers that we notice at any length the issue of each succeeding volume. None are better aware than the compilers of a Directory such as this of the extensive change in population which takes place every year at the various ports. A Directory issued last year is sadly out of date this. In a Directory which embraces the whole of the foreign colonies, ports or settlements in the Far East, from Vladivostok to Netherlands India, it can readily be understood that the production of the book is no light undertaking. There are directories and descriptions of just upon fifty places in China; seventeen in Japan; ten in Corea; nine in French India-China; three in the Philippines; four in the Straits Settlement; six in the Malay States; seven in Netherlands India; two in Eastern Siberia, and in this enumeration we have not included Bangkok, Macao and Hongkong which, of course, all have their place in the book. This is the forty-seventh year that the book has been issued from the *Hongkong Daily Press* Office. The 1909 Directory comprises nearly 2,000 pages, and the weight of the complete edition is six pounds—so that in the East where the book is still sold for \$10 (the price which was paid when the equivalent of \$10 was 30/-) the purchaser receives good value for his money.

The Chronicle portion of the book, like the descriptions and lists of residents, has been brought up to date. The Agreement, between



Japan and the United States made at Washington on November 30th last is included. Another new feature is a full list (on pp 256-7) of the Treaty Ports, Ports of Call and places open to Foreign Trade in the Far East, showing the dates when each was nominally opened by agreement and when it was effectively opened. The new rules of H.B.M.'s Supreme Courts in China and Corea, necessitated by the amendment of the Orders in Council, also appear. Finally we must mention the fifteen useful maps and plans which are included in the complete Edition. It only remains for us to add that the book is now on sale throughout the East, and if there is an office without a copy, it is a deficiency which should be at once repaired.

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT ON KIAOCHAU.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Globe* says:—The annual report dealing with Kiaochau has just been laid before the Reichstag. It claims that the chief aim of the authorities in charge of the Protectorate has been to develop it from a purely commercial aspect, and to make the place a trading centre for the interchange of goods. That Germany could ever expect to develop the Protectorate in any other direction was out of question from the first. After negotiations lasting several years between European financiers and the Chinese Government, the construction of railways in the hinterland of the colony is now assured. The German Shantung Railway connecting Tsingtau with the Chinese provincial town, Tsinanfu, has aided for years the development of the region, and its importance to trade has been increased greatly by the fact that it has been connected at Tsinanfu with the new main line, which is being laid from Tientsin to the Yangtse-Kiang as a Chinese State Railway. This new line is being built with German material, for the superstructure and the bridges throughout the northern section, 316 miles in length, are being supplied entirely by German firms. This means that German works will receive orders amounting to about £1,100,000.

The report laments that the development of the colony suffers greatly from the fact that the Imperial mail steamers do not call at Tsingtau, as thereby the older commercial ports in the Far East have a great advantage. In the hinterland good ship's coal has been found, which the warships have tested and found to be useful. The harbour arrangements at Tsingtau are among the best in the Far East, for cargoes can be unloaded and put into trucks on the quay-side. Still further improvements are to be carried out, and a more uniform system of loading, unloading, and warehousing goods is to be introduced by the Government, and steps are to be taken to secure greater facilities for the exportation of a larger volume of the cheaper kinds of Chinese goods.

Although the outlook continues to be promising, yet the results for 1907-1908 cannot be said to be altogether satisfactory. This is put down to the general depressed tone of the markets in the Far East, in consequence, firstly, of the financial crisis, which, starting in the United States in the autumn of 1907, reduced the buying powers of the public, and, secondly, of the failure of the harvest in Shantung.

On account of the depression in trade the receipts of the Protectorate were £10,013, or 12 per cent., below those that were estimated. But an improvement in this respect has set in, for the receipts have risen since last summer.

With a view to making Kiaochau a centre of European culture a German Higher School organisation has been introduced, and a High School for young Chinese students has been founded, towards the expenses of which China pays a yearly subsidy of £2,000.

The public life of the Protectorate has again made good progress, and the building of private houses and other buildings shows no falling off. The report contains numerous photographs and a plan of the harbour arrangements.

The cook on board s.s. *Manila* was brought before the Magistrate on Saturday for being in the possession of 249 taels of prepared opium which was found by the chief officer in the cook's store room. Mr. Wool entered a conviction, but reserved his decision.

#### FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

##### HAWAII AND JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

London, February 19th.

It is reported that Anti-Japanese measures are contemplated by the Hawaiian Legislature, one prohibiting Japanese engaging in the fishing industry which they monopolise.

##### YOKOHAMA'S JUBILEE.

Tokyo, February 21st.

The Yokohama community has decided to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the port to foreign trade on July 1st and 2nd next.

Public subscriptions are invited towards raising a fund of 100,000 yen to cover the expenses of the festival.

##### JAPANESE FISHING INDUSTRY AT HAWAII.

Tokyo, February 22nd.

Mr. Saito, Head of the Emigration Bureau, stated in an interview that it is well-known to be illegal for aliens to fish in American water, but if Japanese are barred from fishing (at Hawaii?) the industry will be at a standstill.

Mr. Saito, who was formerly Consul at Honolulu, thinks there is no likelihood of the Bills being passed.

##### WARSHIPS DAMAGED.

Tokyo, February 22nd.

The Japanese battleship *Fuji* and the cruiser *Tokawa* have been damaged by striking sunken rocks at Kagoshima.

The damage sustained by the battleship is serious.

##### PROMINENT FOREIGNER'S DEATH IN JAPAN.

Tokyo, February 25th.

The death is announced of Mr. James Walter, a partner in the firm of Messrs. Siber, Wolff and Co. of Zurich and Yokohama. [Deceased was for sometime chairman of the Chamber of Commerce in the last mentioned city, president of St. George's Society, and vice-president of the Japan branch of the British Navy League.]

##### AN ANGLO-JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

Tokyo, February 28th.

Supplementary Estimates for two million yen have been introduced into the Diet for participation in a proposed Anglo-Japanese Exhibition to be held in London.

##### A GIFT FROM AMERICAN SAILORS.

Tokyo, February 28th.

The crews of the American Fleet which has circumnavigated the world have subscribed a sum of two thousand dollars for the presentation of a loving cup to the Japanese Navy, through Admiral Togo, in appreciation of the courtesy shown to them during their visit to Japan.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

##### PROSPECTIVE ROYAL VISIT.

Peking, February 21st.

The British Minister, Sir John Jordan, has informed the Board of Foreign Affairs that an Indian Prince intends paying a visit to Shanghai and Tientsin shortly.

The Authorities have decided that His Highness will be accorded a hearty reception.

##### THE CHINESE NAVY.

Peking, February 21st.

It is the intention of the Prince Regent to reorganise the Chinese navy within a period of two years.

Yesterday their Highnesses the Princes Ching and Su were summoned before the Regent to consider the matter.

##### A THREATENED REBELLION.

Peking, February 22nd.

The Chinese Minister at Tokyo has sent a telegram to the Throne reporting that several members of the Anti-Manchu Society are proceeding to Kirin in Manchuria with a view to raising a rebellion there. He asks the Throne to send orders to the Viceroy of Manchuria to be on the lookout for the rebels.

##### REPUDIATION OF DEBTS.

Peking, February 24th.

The Board of Foreign Affairs has issued a dispatch to the Chinese Ministers in different countries to the effect that any debts contracted by the Princes of Mongolia will not be recognised unless signed by the Board of Foreign Affairs.

##### PROTECTION OF CHINESE MERCHANTS.

Peking, February 24th.

The Board of Foreign Affairs has issued a dispatch to the Foreign Ministers in Peking asking them to request the Government to protect Chinese and Chinese merchants in their respective countries. The Ministers have replied and expressed their willingness to do as requested.

##### SHIPPING NOTES.

In May of this year the Osaka Shosen Kaisha will inaugurate a new Trans-Pacific regular monthly freight service, and later a fortnightly service on completion of the whole fleet, starting from Hongkong, via Shanghai, Moji, Kobe and Yokohama (with liberty to call at Manila, Keelung, Yokkaichi, Shimidzu, Victoria, B.C., &c.) to Tacoma, Wash., where the proposed service is to connect under the sole traffic arrangement with the celebrated Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company, of Chicago, Ill., who are now extending their new road to the Puget Sound. Six new steamers, each of 12,000 tons displacement, and of maximum speed 15 knots per hour, are now under construction for the proposed service; the first one is to be ready for sea by April next followed by the other five at short intervals.

\* \* \*

Latest news from Singapore states that the attempts of the tugs to move the wreck of the *Djambi* from the end of the East Wharf into the lagoon have proved ineffectual and further efforts are deferred pending additional instructions from the owners. She still lies where she sank after collision with the French mail steamer. With regard to the *Kalomo*, which was sunk to extinguish the fire among her cargo just before Christmas, preliminary operations in the way of erecting cofferdams are almost completed and pumping operations will shortly be started.

\* \* \*

In view of the increase which has recently been made in the light dues on shipping in Hongkong it is of interest to note that at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom which was fixed for Friday last, the 19th inst. a resolution was to be submitted advocating the abolition of the light dues on shipping, and the recognition by the Government of the claim that the maintenance of the lighthouse system of the country should form a charge on the Exchequer. The fact that the Governments of Great Britain and Germany have mutually recognised each other's load-line tables prompted the General Shipowners' Society, London, to put down a motion in favour of general international agreement on the subject. Other resolutions favour a reduction in the dues charged by the Suez Canal Company, the removal of the inequality in the stamp duty on marine policies, and the checking of abuses of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The Liverpool Shipowners' Association proposed, to invite attention to the subject of Colonial legislation respecting merchant shipping.



Senor Maristany, at one time the Spanish Mail Co's representative in Manila, is on a tour of the company's agencies in the Far East. He is now at Manila. The Spanish newspapers in Manila have hinted that Sr. Maristany's visit is in connection with an extension of the company's lines to China and Japan, but this is characterized as a canard by Captain Osle, the present Manila agent of the concern.

Last month, a few days before the P. and O. Company's new mail and passenger steamer *Malwa*, 11,000 tons, built by Caird, of Greenock, left on her maiden voyage to Sydney Sir Thomas Sutherland, the chairman of the company, and the directors—Sir William Adamson, Mr. E. H. Cunard, and Mr. S. S. Gladstone—took a large party of merchants, bankers, and exporters down from London by special train to Tilbury Dock to see this addition to their fleet, which is designed also to cruise during the season to Madeira and the Azores, the northern capitals, and to Sweden, Denmark, Russia, etc. Sir Thomas Sutherland, in reply to a toast, said the *Malwa* was the eighth of its class the company had built in the last five years, and the total cost of the eight was £2,700,000. But this was not all their shipbuilding in that period. In order to carry out the freight mail service with which the P. and O. were entrusted they had built in a little over five years no fewer than twenty-two steam vessels, amounting altogether to 185,000 tons, and costing £4,500,000. They could not live by mails alone. (Laughter.) They had to struggle on under the disadvantages of a most difficult service and a most ludicrously inadequate payment for the same. (Laughter.) But still their record was one of which the directors had every reason to be proud. The punctuality of the Eastern mails might easily be compared with the punctuality in the delivery of the mails between Aberdeen and London. The *Malwa* is of 15,000 h.p., and has a speed of nineteen knots. She has berthing room in the fore and after saloons for 600 persons in all, is handsomely and comfortably furnished, and includes in her equipment an electric laundry of the latest type.

Sir Thomas Sutherland mentioned in his speech that he had often been asked why they did not build monster turbinis leviathans, such as were breaking all records across the Atlantic. The answer was simple. Three such steamers each making one voyage outwards and homewards, would carry all the passengers which they took in the course of a year. The company would run such steamers if the public would provide the money. (Laughter.) Indeed, the company would construct an aeroplane under such terms, though he did not think aeroplanes would play any part in ocean traffic in his time, whatever they might do in future generations. (Cheers and laughter.) They did not wish to add this new mode of transit to their many cares, of which he mentioned one, with which they were expected to deal. A passenger had complained to him that after a very short journey on one of their boats he had added 10lb to his weight. The company, of course, were responsible for seeing that the load-line of their ships was not exceeded, but they declaimed all responsibility in regard to the load-line of passengers. (Laughter.)

## COMMERCIAL.

### IMPORTS.—

#### OPIUM.

HONGKONG, March, 1st.

Quotations are:—

|                            |        |            |
|----------------------------|--------|------------|
| Malwa New .....            | \$1080 | per picul. |
| Malwa Old .....            | \$1100 | do.        |
| Malwa Older .....          | \$1130 | do.        |
| Malwa Very Old .....       | \$1180 | do.        |
| Persian Fine Quality ..... | \$1020 | do.        |
| Persian Extra Fine .....   | \$880  | do.        |
| Patna New .....            | \$140  | per chest. |
| Patna Old .....            | \$1075 | do.        |
| Benares New .....          | \$990  | do.        |
| Benares Old .....          | \$—    | do.        |

### SUGAR.

Kobe, February 16th. Cane.—Raw.—The Market is quiet. Muscovados basis 96% Polarisation Colour 12½ average is quoted at Yen 6.30 per picul ex ship. Osaka Refined.—The usual auction took place on the 3rd inst. 2,000 bags were sold at an advance of from 10 sen to 15 sen, while 200 bags BBB and 30 bags MMM Kobe manufacture were disposed of at Yen 18.2 and Yen 17.95 respectively.

### RICE.

HONGKONG, 1st March.—There is no change of the position of the market and the prices are the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

|                                       |        |    |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----|--------|
| Saigon, Ordinary .....                | \$5.20 | to | \$5.25 |
| Round, Good quality .....             | \$5.10 | to | 5.15   |
| Long .....                            | \$5.30 | to | 5.35   |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ..... | \$5.40 | to | 5.45   |
| Garden, " No. 1 .....                 | \$5.10 | to | 5.25   |
| White, .....                          | \$5.05 | to | 5.10   |
| Fine Cargo .....                      | \$5.00 | to | 5.05   |

### JAPANESE MARKETS.

#### IMPORTS.

Kobe, 16th February.—Cotton.—American.—“Forward” quotations have remained fairly steady, the fluctuations of the past fortnight being of no consequence. Latest quotation for Middling is reported at Yen 32.00, but no business has been done. “Spot” Middling is nominal at Yen 30.00. Indian.—Rates have ruled steady, in consequence of which business has been quiet. “Spot” likewise has ruled quiet owing to small stocks, and to the arrival of contracted cargoes. Closing quotations are: Broach Yen 25.75; Akola Khanguam (new) Yen 22.75; Bengal Yen 22.00. Chinese.—Business in both “forward” and “spot” has been insignificant owing to comparatively high rates ruling. Best closes at Yen 25.50, and Common at Yen 22.75. Shirtings.—A few small enquiries but little fresh business has been booked owing to an advance in the Manchester market. Cotton Goods and Fancies.—The clearance of stock lots of Black goods at low prices continues, and a little new business has been done for forward arrival. Fancies quiet. Worsted and Woollens.—The market for Spring Goods has proved rather disappointing so far owing to the heavy stocks carried over from last season contracts for forward arrival have not reached the usual volume. Metals.—Very little doing.

#### EXPORTS.

Copper.—Market very quiet, no transactions. Fish Oil.—Market very firm. Rice.—Demand has fallen off and market is weak and declining. Cotton Yarn.—The market has advanced since last report. At a committee meeting of the Japan Cotton Spinner's Association it was decided to continue the reduction of the output by 27½% for a further period of 6 months from May 1st. Vegetable Wax.—Some transactions have been done at low prices, market closing steady. Matting.—The market for material straw advanced considerably during the past fortnight but there being little demand for stock goods prices of Mattings were not affected. Straw Braid.—Our market was more active during the past fortnight, and a fair quantity of new business has been transacted, prices closing a little firmer in consequence. Chip Braid.—Practically no change to report.

### PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 25th February, 1909, state:—The week under review has been very quiet as regards fresh business, or transactions from first hands, though probably owing to the loading of some steamers for Tientsin there was a little more movement from second-hand holders. Four steamers have left for that Port so far but owing to a sudden spell of cold weather the entrance to the Peiho became closed again as was anticipated might happen, and the steamers put into Chefoo to await another opportunity. The River is now open, but the large quantity of floating ice is a serious danger and it will probably be some days yet, therefore, before it will be safe to attempt an entry. The above mentioned four steamers are carrying as re-exports from this 3,150 packages of Piece Goods and Yarn but in addition there must be a large quantity of re-shipment cargo that has accumulated here during the close season. Until these goods have arrived at their destination and have been put on the market it is not very likely much more will

be sent forward, as it must be remembered fair quantities have been going up all the winter, since the direct steamers ceased running. The following is a rough estimate of the quantity as published up to date.

|                                    |        |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Grey Shirtings, European .....     | piculs | 87,712 |
| T.-Cloths 32-inches, English ..... | "      | 21,514 |
| White Shirtings, European .....    | "      | 44,060 |
| Drills American .....              | "      | 50,820 |
| Jen's English .....                | "      | 9,956  |
| Do American .....                  | "      | 3,150  |
| Shirtings English .....            | "      | 11,030 |
| Do American .....                  | "      | 74,460 |
| Printed Cottons .....              | "      | 5,542  |
| Turkey Red Shirtings .....         | pieces | 6,074  |
| Handkerchiefs .....                | dozen  | 17,380 |
| Muslins .....                      | pieces | 1,400  |
| Black Italians, Plain .....        | "      | 10,053 |
| Coloured Italians Plain and        |        |        |
| Figured .....                      | "      | 3,041  |
| Venetians (all kinds) .....        | "      | 4,833  |
| Cotton Yarn Indian .....           | piculs | 19,444 |
| Do Japanese .....                  | "      | 4,463  |
| Do Shanghai .....                  | "      | 11,542 |

It stands to reason therefore the early shipments must show considerable curtailment as compared with former years. Nothing special has been heard regarding Newchwang. The Exchange on this is better and there is nothing, so far as we can learn, to discredit the favourable outlook for as good a spring trade as was anticipated. Although it is difficult to follow the disconnected advices that reach us it seems that satisfactory arrangements are being made between the Railway Companies to carry merchandise into the interior and that the working of the trade will be greatly facilitated and on a more equitable basis. For the Shantung ports there is a steady demand for all sorts and kinds on a moderate scale. The development of the railway in that province should soon open up rich fields for the benefit of commerce, both import and export. The river trade, taking Hankow as the basis, is not at all satisfactory. Credit has been badly shaken and the Native Banks are acting very cautiously. Orders are therefore slow in coming down, the business doing being simply from hand to mouth. Of course the auctions are probably supplying a good deal of the demand to the detriment of private sellers. A steamer is leaving for Korea early next week but so far there is not much demand for space, the market being very quiet.

The Auctions of Fancy Goods are increasing, really monopolising the whole trade at the moment in that class of goods. It certainly seems a great pity that such a course should have to be resorted to and it can only be hoped that the end will justify the means. Recent telegrams from Manchester intimate a rather weaker feeling, quotations being down practically all round, and Manufacturers anxious for orders. Cotton with a few slight fluctuations, as far as American is concerned, has been fairly steady, closing at 5.07d. for Middling spot, while May/June is quoted 5.02d. c.o.c. Egyptian is easier again at 8.3/16d. The last fortnightly telegraphic advice gave 18,000,000 yards as the export of Plain Cottons to China. New York is still very firm, it being almost impossible to get any concessions on the prices quoted, which are 10s. 6d. for 3 yard, 9s. 8d. 3¼ yard and 8s. 4½d. for 4 lbs. but we understand 1,000 bales 3 yard goods under a private chop has been bought for this market at 10s. 4d. Cotton is easier, the quotation for March option received to-day being 9.31 cents. From the monthly summary of commerce, etc., of the United States, we learn the Export of Cotton Goods to China in November was 4,162,550 yards valued at \$214,263 gold against 1,481,290 yards valued at \$112,653 gold in November, 1907. The total for the eleven months was 74,172,792 yards valued at \$4,242,913 gold against 37,145,540 yards and \$2,581,583 gold in 1907. The Yarn market has continued excited, but buying has been chiefly by native speculators to bolster up their own holdings. The heavy arrivals of Indian this week are largely on indent account. Bombay is reported firmer and Spinners harder to deal with. The Cotton Yarn Report of the same firm has the following:—After the brisk market of last week it was not to be expected demand would be upheld but nevertheless a fair amount of business has been done and at the close there are still some unexecuted orders on the market. The price of Mid Orleans Cotton on the Liverpool market is 5.07d. and the rate for May/June delivery is 5.02d. The price of Egyptian is unchanged at 8.3/16d. The New York market appear to be somewhat upset as during the earlier part of the week the quotation for March and July delivery was the same viz:—9.44 cents while to-day the price for the former clearance comes in at 9.31 cents.



## HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 22nd February 1909.

Hongkong markets:—

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Apricot .....        | \$18 to 19   |
| Borax .....          | \$17 to 18   |
| Cassia .....         | \$27         |
| Cloves .....         | \$30 to 32   |
| Camphor .....        | \$80 to 85   |
| Cow Bezoar .....     | \$70 to 115  |
| Fennel Seed .....    | \$8          |
| Galangal .....       | \$2 to 4     |
| Grapes .....         | \$19 to 20   |
| Kismis .....         | \$21 to 22   |
| Glue .....           | \$28         |
| Olibanum .....       | \$3 to 15    |
| Oil Sandalwood ..... | \$300        |
| „ Rosa .....         | \$70 to 90   |
| „ Cassia .....       | \$208 to 210 |
| Raisins .....        | \$13         |
| Senna Leaves .....   | \$7          |
| Sandalwood .....     | \$33         |
| Saltpetre .....      | \$10         |

EXPORTS:—

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG 1st March:—The prices are going downward, Market being dull.

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Hankow, 17th February.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

|                                                       | Per picul  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Cowhides, best selected .....                         | Tls. 38.50 |
| Do. seconds .....                                     | „ 33.50    |
| Buffalo hides, best selected .....                    | „ 22.50    |
| Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour .....       | „ —        |
| Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each .....              | „ —        |
| White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi .....        | „ 8.80     |
| White China Grass, Sinsian and/or Chayu .....         | „ 8.20     |
| Green China Grass, Szechuen .....                     | „ —        |
| Jute .....                                            | „ —        |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow .....                 | „ 10.70    |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng ..... | „ —        |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu .....                  | „ —        |
| Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu .....                    | „ 10.20    |
| Animal Tallow .....                                   | „ 11.50    |
| Gallnuts, usual shape .....                           | „ 15.00    |
| Gallnuts, plum do. .....                              | „ 17.30    |
| Tobacco, Tingchow .....                               | „ —        |
| Tobacco, Wongkong .....                               | „ —        |
| Black Bristles, Riflings .....                        | „ 107.00   |
| Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck .....           | „ —        |
| Turmeric .....                                        | „ —        |
| Sesamum Seed .....                                    | „ 5.05     |
| Sesamum Seed Oil .....                                | „ —        |
| Wood Oil .....                                        | „ 8.75     |
| Tea Oil .....                                         | „ —        |

Per P. & O. steamer *Britannia*, sailed on 20th Feb. 1909. For Antwerp:—5 cases human hair. For Manchester:—210 bales waste silk. For Feville:—115 packages tea. For Lyons:—72 bales raw silk. For St Etienne:—30 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—74 bales raw silk, 75 packages tea, 5 cases human hair, 1 case bird feathers. For London:—132 bales waste silk, 61 bales raw silk, 43 packages tea, 6 cases birds' feathers, 9 cases silk, 4 cases cigars and curios.

Per P. & O. steamer *Malta*, sailed on 24th Feb. 1909. Antwerp.—1622 bags copra. Marseilles.—1 case hats, 1 case feathers. Trieste.—1 case hat. Manchester.—1 case personal effects. London.—1451 bales hemp, 706 cases tea, 362 bales pierced cocoons, 50 bales waste silk, 30 cases woodware &c., 6 bags horn tips, 4 cases curios, 6 cases empty gas flasks, 20 pkgs merchandise.

## HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 26th February, 1909.—The release of dividend money has caused an increased demand for investment stocks and a fair cash business has been transacted, the smaller stocks coming in for most attention, the larger ones being still handicapped by the reluctance of holders to part to any extent at the ruling rates. The tone of the market shows a distinct improvement and rates close firm in most cases. Exchange on London closes at 1/8½ T. T. and on Shanghai at 74½.

**BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai. The market has ruled firm and buyers at 870, ex the div., of \$26.02 and bonus, paid on the 22nd inst., failing to meet with a response the rate rose to 875 with buyers; with the exception of a few sales from the outputs at that rate we have heard of no business and the market closes firm with buyers and no sellers. The London rate has improved to £86.10, cum dividend and bonus. Nationals have been placed at 51 and close with further buyers.

**MARINE INSURANCE.**—Unions have changed hands at 825, in small lots and Cantons at 187½, the latter closing steady with an inclination to buy. North Chinas have been negotiated in small lots at 100 but close with sellers at that, and possibly at a lower rate. Yangtzes have improved to 192½.

**FIRE INSURANCES.**—Hongkongs have found further buyers at 330, but at 332½ a few shares are obtainable, the report just published recommends the payment of a dividend of \$27 per share and the placing to reserve of \$114,232.90 and carry forward to new account \$368,711.23. The report compares very favourably with last years. China Fires remain steady with sales at 106, the market closing with buyers at that rate.

**SHIPPING.**—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have improved to 29 with sales and buyers, closing strong. Shells are enquired for at 51s., but no shares are available. The latest London quotation is 52s. 6d. Indos have further improved to 39½ and 19½ without sales, London quoting £3, 15s. and £2. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

**REFINERIES.**—Chinas continuing in favour and holders refusing to part with many shares at 130, the market after some further sales at that rate improved to 132½ and later to 135 with sales, closing firm at the latter rate. Luzons claim no attention.

**MINING.**—Raubs continue quite neglected closing with sellers at 8½. Langkats have improved in the North to 800, and Chinese Engineerings to 18½ the latter without sales. Charbonages are enquired for at \$600 but no shares appear to be available at the rate.

**DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.**—Hongkong & Whanpoa Docks remain very steady and have been the medium of a fair business at 87½ and 88 ex the dividend of \$4 paid on the 23rd inst. the market closing with sellers at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharfs continue in demand at 47, and several sales have been made notwithstanding the fact that no dividend is expected for the year ended 31st December. Buyers rule the market at the time of closing. Shanghai Docks show a decided advance and after sales at 80 in the early part of the week close with buyers at 84. Hongkew Wharfs have also improved considerably in the North and are now in demand at the increased rate of 173.

**LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands continue in demand, in the absence of sellers the market closes very firm at 94, and with no sellers to meet the demand it is probable that a higher rate would be paid. Humphreys have changed hands at 8.65, and later at 8.75 closing steady with probable buyers at the latter rate. Hotels have been placed in small lots at 90 and close steady to strong.

**COTTON MILLS.**—All the Northern mills have improved, the latest quotations being Ewos 105, Internationals 80, Laou Kung Mows 88, and Soy Chees 280 Hongkongs remain out of favour, with small reported sales at 94 while an offer of \$9 would probably lead to business.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Bells Asbestos have improved to 10 with sales, China Borneos, China Provs, Dai-ys, Union Water Boats and China Lights, have changed hands at quotations in fair lots. Electrics after sales at 184 are still enquired for, Watsons have found small buyers at 9½, closing with sellers at that and with buyers at 9. Cements have been placed to some extent at 9.60 and 9.50, closing with sellers at 9.60 and 9.50. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:—

| Stocks                    | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS              |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Alhambra, Ltd. ....       | \$50     | Nominal                 |
| Banks—                    |          |                         |
| Hongkong & S'hai...       | all      | \$875, buyers<br>£86.10 |
| National B. of China      | £6       | \$51, sales & buyers    |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A...   | 12/6     | \$10, sales & buyers    |
| China-Borneo Co. ....     | \$12     | \$11½ sales & buy.      |
| China Light & P. Co. .... | \$10     | \$41, sales & buy.      |
| China Provident .....     | \$10     | \$9.20, buyers          |
| Cotton Mills—             |          |                         |
| Ewo Cotton S. & W.        | Tls. 5   | Tls. 105                |
| Hongkong C. S. Co.        | \$10     | \$9 sellers             |
| International .....       | Tls. 7½  | Tls. 80                 |
| Laou Kung Mow .....       | Tls. 100 | Tls. 88                 |
| Soychee .....             | Tls. 500 | Tls. 280                |
| Dairy Farm Co. ....       | \$6      | \$14, sales & buy.      |
| Docks & Wharves—          |          |                         |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.        | all      | \$47, sales & buy.      |
| H. & W. Dock .....        | all      | \$88, sellers & d.      |
| New Amoy Dock .....       | \$4½     | \$9½, buyers            |
| Shanghai Dock and         |          |                         |
| Eng. Co., Ltd. ....       | Tls. 100 | Tls. 84, sal. & buy.    |
| S'hai & H. Wharf...       | Tls. 100 | Tls. 173, buyers        |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo. ....  | \$25     | \$12, sellers           |
| G. Island Cement Co.      | 10       | \$9.50, buyers          |
| Hongkong & C. Gas .....   | all      | \$200, buyers           |
| Hongkong Electric .....   | \$10     | \$18½, sales & buy.     |
| Hongkong Hotel Co. ....   | all      | \$90, sales & sel.      |
| Hongkong Ice Co. ....     | all      | \$220, sellers          |
| H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.   | \$100    | Nominal                 |
| H'kong Rope M. Co. ....   | all      | \$25                    |
| Insurances—               |          |                         |
| Canton .....              | \$50     | \$187½, sales           |
| China Fire .....          | \$20     | \$106, sales & buy.     |
| China Traders .....       | \$25     | \$87½, buyers           |
| Hongkong Fire .....       | 50       | \$330, sales & sal.     |
| North China .....         | \$25     | Tls. 97½, sellers       |
| Union .....               | \$100    | \$825, sales            |
| Yangtze .....             | \$60     | \$192½, buyers          |
| Land and Buildings—       |          |                         |
| H'kong Land Invest.       | 100      | \$94, sales & buy.      |
| Humphrey's Estate         | all      | \$8.75                  |
| Kowloon Land & B.         | \$30     | \$30                    |
| Shanghai Land .....       | Tls. 50  | Tls. 115                |
| West Point Building       | \$50     | \$44, sellers           |
| Mining—                   |          |                         |
| S. F. des C. du T'kin     | all      | \$600, buyers           |
| Raubs .....               | 18/10    | \$8½, sellers           |
| Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.   | all      | \$14                    |
| Philippine Co., Ltd. .... | \$1      | \$2                     |
| Refineries—               |          |                         |
| China Sugar .....         | all      | \$135, buyers           |
| Luzon Sugar .....         | all      | \$17                    |
| Robinson Piano Co. ....   | \$50     | \$59, sellers           |
| Steamship Companies       |          |                         |
| China and Manila .....    | \$25     | \$12, sellers           |
| Douglas Steamship         | all      | \$34, buyers            |
| H., Canton & M. ....      | \$15     | \$29, sales & buy.      |
| Indo-China S. N. Co.      | all      | \$39½, buyers           |
| Shell Transport Co.       | 21       | \$19½, buyers           |
| Star Ferry .....          | \$10     | \$23½                   |
| South China M. Post...    | \$5      | \$15                    |
| Steam Laundry Co. ....    | \$5      | \$24, sellers           |
| Stores & Dispensaries—    |          |                         |
| Campbell, M & Co. ....    | all      | \$9, buyers             |
| Wm. Powell, Ltd. ....     | \$7      | \$21, buyers            |
| Watkins, Ltd. ....        | \$10     | \$21, buyers            |
| Watson & Co., A. S.       | \$10     | \$9, buyers             |
| Weissmann, Ltd. ....      | \$100    | \$140                   |
| United Asbestos .....     | \$4      | \$12½                   |
| Union Waterboat Co. ....  | \$10     | \$230                   |
|                           |          | \$10, sales & buy.      |

VERNON &amp; SMYTH, Brokers.



## EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, March 1st

## ON LONDON.—

|                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Telegraphic Transfer              | 1/8 1/2 |
| Bank Bills, on demand             | 1/8 1/2 |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight     | 1/8 1/2 |
| Bank Bills at 4 months' sight     | 1/8 1/2 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight       | 1/9 1/2 |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months sight | 1/9 1/2 |

## ON PARIS.—

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Bank Bills, on demand   | 218 1/2 |
| Credits 4 months' sight | 222 1/2 |

## ON GERMANY.—

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| On demand | 177 1/2 |
|-----------|---------|

## ON NEW YORK.—

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Bank Bills, on demand   | 42 1/2 |
| Credits, 60 days' sight | 43 1/2 |

## ON BOMBAY.—

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Telegraphic Transfer | 130 1/2 |
| Bank, on demand      | 130 1/2 |

## ON CALCUTTA.—

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Telegraphic Transfer | 130 1/2 |
| Bank on demand       | 130 1/2 |

## ON SHANGHAI.—

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Bank, at sight          | 74 1/2 |
| Private, 30 days' sight | 75 1/2 |

## ON YOKOHAMA.—

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| On demand | 84 1/2 |
|-----------|--------|

## ON MANILA.—

|           |    |
|-----------|----|
| On demand | 85 |
|-----------|----|

## ON SINGAPORE.—

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| On demand | 74 1/2 |
|-----------|--------|

## ON BATAVIA.—

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| On demand | 104 1/2 |
|-----------|---------|

## ON HAIPHONG.—

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| On demand | 14 1/2 p.c. pm. |
|-----------|-----------------|

## ON SAIGON.—

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| On demand | 14 p.c. pm. |
|-----------|-------------|

## ON BANGKOK.—

|           |    |
|-----------|----|
| On demand | 88 |
|-----------|----|

## SVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| 100 fine, per tael | 811.35 |
|--------------------|--------|

## GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael

|  |        |
|--|--------|
|  | 859.55 |
|--|--------|

## BAR SILVER per oz.

|  |        |
|--|--------|
|  | 23 1/2 |
|--|--------|

## FREIGHT.

Hankow, 17th Feb.—Per Conference Steamers, To London and Northern Continental ports 50/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 50/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G. \$1.50 cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1.75 cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 to 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## February:—

## ARRIVALS.

|                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|
| 19, Bandai Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.         |
| 19, Britannia, British str., from Shanghai.    |
| 19, C. Apear, British str., from Calcutta.     |
| 19, Chipshing, British str., from Wakamatsu.   |
| 19, Flintshire, British str., from London.     |
| 19, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.         |
| 19, Hunan, British str., from Weihaiwei.       |
| 19, Idomeneus, British str., from Amoy.        |
| 19, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.     |
| 19, Manchuria, Am. str., from San Francisco.   |
| 19, Montrose, British str., from Singapore.    |
| 19, Palembang, Dutch str., from Singapore.     |
| 19, Taikoson Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.       |
| 19, Tean, British str., from Manila.           |
| 20, A. Borresin, Nor. str., from Kutchinotzu.  |
| 20, E. of India, British str., from Vancouver. |
| 20, Fukura Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.         |
| 20, Gryfevale, Br. str., from Newcastle.       |
| 20, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.   |
| 20, Kageshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.      |
| 20, Loongsang, British str., from Iloilo.      |
| 20, Taiyuan, British str., from Sydney.        |
| 21, Benvenue, British str., from London.       |
| 21, Binhthuan, French str., from Manila.       |
| 21, Dacre Castle, Brit. str., from New York.   |
| 21, Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.   |
| 21, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.     |
| 21, Kjeld, Norwegian str., from Dalny.         |
| 21, Knivsberg, German str., from Haiphong.     |
| 21, Leipzig, German str., from Swatow.         |
| 21, Onsang, British str., from Hongay.         |
| 21, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.     |
| 22, Cheongshing, Br. str., from Tsingtau.      |
| 22, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.     |
| 22, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.     |
| 22, Kaga Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.       |
| 22, Pakling, British str., from Shanghai.      |
| 22, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.     |
| 22, Shantung, British str., from Samarang.     |
| 22, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.       |
| 22, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.         |
| 23, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.         |
| 23, Ichang, British str., from Chinkiang.      |

|                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|
| 23, Malta, British str., from Yokohama.        |
| 23, Montgomeryshire, Br. str., from Shanghai.  |
| 23, Ningpo, British str., from Hongay.         |
| 23, Oanfa, British str., from Manila.          |
| 23, P. R. Luitpold, Ger. str., from Shanghai.  |
| 23, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.    |
| 23, Suruga, British str., from Yokohama.       |
| 23, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.     |
| 23, Tingsang, British str., from Chinkiang.    |
| 23, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.         |
| 23, Wakamatsu M., Jap. str., from Wakamatsu.   |
| 24, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.         |
| 24, Anghui, German str., from Bangkok.         |
| 24, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.       |
| 24, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.          |
| 24, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.  |
| 24, Hanoi, French str., from K. C. Wan.        |
| 24, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.        |
| 24, Joshin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.       |
| 24, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.        |
| 24, Kutsang, British str., from Calcutta.      |
| 24, Shinno Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.         |
| 24, Slavonia, German str., from Shanghai.      |
| 24, Titan, British str., from Tacoma.          |
| 25, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.        |
| 25, Glamorganshire, Brit. str., from London.   |
| 25, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore. |
| 25, Jillyria, German str., from Singapore.     |
| 25, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.         |
| 25, Singan, British str., from Haiphong.       |
| 25, Winnebago, Br. str., from San Francisco.   |
| 26, Fooshing, British str., from Moji.         |
| 26, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.         |
| 26, Heimdall, Norwegian str., from Moji.       |
| 26, Helene, German str., from Swatow.          |
| 26, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.   |
| 26, Kleist, German str., from Bremen.          |
| 26, Nord, Norwegian str., from Saigon.         |
| 26, Silesia, Austrian str., from Shanghai.     |
| 26, Spezia, German str., from Manila.          |
| 26, Taming, British str., from Manila.         |

## February:— DEPARTURES.

|                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|
| 19, Choyang, British str., for Swatow.         |
| 19, Delta, British str., for Shanghai.         |
| 19, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.          |
| 19, Linan, British str., for Shanghai.         |
| 19, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.       |
| 19, Norman Prince, Brit. str., for Shanghai.   |
| 19, Rubi, British str., for Amoy.              |
| 19, abino Rickmers, Dutch str., for Amoy.      |
| 19, Simonga, Dutch str., for Amoy.             |
| 19, Tjipanas, Dutch str., for Saigon.          |
| 19, Vorwaerts, Austrian str., for Shanghai.    |
| 19, Yawata Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.    |
| 20, Britannia, British str., for Europe, &c.   |
| 20, Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.         |
| 20, Germania, German str., for Hongay.         |
| 20, Hupeh, British str., for Haiphong.         |
| 20, Idomeneus, British str., for Singapore.    |
| 20, Japan, British str., for Singapore.        |
| 20, Montrose, British str., for Shanghai.      |
| 20, Ragnar, Norwegian str., for Tamsui.        |
| 20, Rajah, German str., for Bangkok.           |
| 20, Roma, British str., for Manila.            |
| 20, Sultan, British str., for Yokohama.        |
| 20, Tjibodas, Dutch str., for Moji.            |
| 21, Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.         |
| 21, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.    |
| 21, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.          |
| 21, Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.     |
| 21, Kageshima Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.  |
| 21, Keongwai, German str., for Swatow.         |
| 21, Loyal, German str., for Saigon.            |
| 21, Tungshing, British str., for Swatow.       |
| 22, Taikoson Maru, Jap. str., for Taikao.      |
| 23, Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.    |
| 23, Haiyang, British str., for Swatow.         |
| 23, Hanchow, British str., for Chefoo.         |
| 23, Hinsang, British str., for Shanghai.       |
| 23, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.      |
| 23, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.       |
| 23, Palembang, Dutch str., for Singapore.      |
| 23, Tean, British str., for Manila.            |
| 24, Benvenue, British str., for Nagasaki.      |
| 24, China, American str., for Shanghai.        |
| 24, Dacre Castle, British str., for Shanghai.  |
| 24, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.          |
| 24, Huichow, British str., for Tientsin.       |
| 24, Hupeh, British str., for Haiphong.         |
| 24, Kiangping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.    |
| 24, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.       |
| 24, Malta, British str., for Singapore.        |
| 24, P. R. Luitpold, Ger. str., for Europe, &c. |
| 24, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.    |
| 25, A. Borresin, Norwegian str., for Saigon.   |
| 25, Bandai Maru, Jap. str., for Takao.         |
| 25, C. Apear, British str., for Singapore.     |
| 25, Clara Jebson, German str., for Haiphong.   |

|                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------|
| 25, Hunan, British str., for Amoy.            |
| 25, Slavonia, German str., for Singapore.     |
| 25, Szechuen, British str., for Shanghai.     |
| 26, Binhthuan, French str., for Hongay.       |
| 26, Hangsang, British str., for Swatow.       |
| 26, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.      |
| 26, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.     |
| 26, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.         |
| 26, Montgomeryshire, Br. str., for Singapore. |
| 26, Oanfa, British str., for Kutchinotzu.     |
| 26, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.    |
| 26, Suruga, British str., for Manila.         |
| 26, Taiyuan, British str., for Manila.        |

## PASSENGERS.

## ARRIVED

Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Mr Vandilet.  
 Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mrs Farrow and Mr Lanson.  
 Per *Montgomeryshire*, from Shanghai, Dr. and Mrs Elliott, Messrs H. Harding and C. G. Furrell.  
 Per *Kaga Maru*, from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs F. M. Mohler, Mr and Mrs H. N. Wright, Messrs W. K. Cook, C. N. Cast and A. J. Candhee.  
 Per *Tean*, from Manila, Major and Mrs Beber, Mesdames Quinan and 2 children, Breck and Dunn, Messrs Quinan, Breck, Daily, Young, Sedgby, Sherbourne, Taylor, Fulton, Laveres and M. Laveres.  
 Per *Taiyuan*, from Sydney and Australia for Hongkong, Capt. & Mrs. G. B. McGrie and child, Mrs. Spedding, Mrs. Gale & child, Mrs. Garrate, Mrs. Caecis & 4 children, Miss James, Capt. Lanboch, Messrs Trumbur, Truer, Bishop, Spedding and Larmy.  
 Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Salmon, Messrs A. G. F. Walker, L. Cavanagh, from Yokohama, Capt. & Mrs. Dundas, Mr. Wm. T. Payne, from Shanghai, Mrs. Cavanagh and 4 children, Messrs W. J. Baillie, C. D. Silas, A. Babinaton, L. Knox, S. J. Kendall and C. N. Edge.  
 Per *Kutsang*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr and Mrs Maitland, Major & Mrs A. P. Higginson, D.S.O., 2 children and nurse, Major and Mrs W. Taylor, Rev. and Mrs Murphy, Mrs C. E. Richardson, Misses T. Tayler, E. C. Morton and Florence Mills, Brothers Kieran & Stephen, Messrs M. E. Owen, I. N. Mobaied, H. C. Fenn and A. H. Laurence.  
 Per *Prinz Regent Luitpold*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs Ritter, Messrs C. T. Shane and Ronfun; from Kobe, Miss Duncan, Messrs F. Takaka and Max Lamsig; from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs J. V. Vandenberg, Mrs Vanon, Mrs P. D. Guedes, Mrs Sander, Messrs N. P. King, S. M. Brown, D. B. Clark, T. U. R. Shaw, P. Offermann, E. U. Foot, E. P. Botelho, M. Bon and F. Tonnocky.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Rubi*, for Amoy, Mr M. C. Thompson; for Manila, Misses J. S. Jackson and N. Olhme, Dr. H. O. Sommer, Messrs J. J. Schittler and A. J. Redford.  
 Per *Britannia*, for London, &c., Mr and Mrs Dymond and family, Capt. Erskine, Sergeant Kent and family, Messrs. Alexander, W. B. Wilson, D. Freeman, Hayward, Pollock, K. C. Deane, Melbye, Parratt, Bryant, Crichton, Yoder, Ryan, and Ross.  
 Per *Malta*, from Yokohama, for London, Messrs J. Cormath, W. J. Spearer, J. F. Prout and A. S. Burgess; from Shanghai, for Colombo, Mr S. D. Pyke and servant; for Marseilles, Mr and Mrs Hardman and child; for London, Mr and Mrs Baxter and child, Mr and Mrs T. O. Robertson, Mrs Scull, Misses Parrott, Buck, Hunnex and J. Rees, Messrs A. J. Parrott, J. R. Anderson and T. Currie.  
 Per *Yawata Maru*, for Manila, &c., Mr and Mrs H. B. Pond, Mr and Mrs A. Zizelman, Mr and Mrs H. Walters, Mrs C. B. D. Custodo and child, Misses M. Wolfson, Diamond & Montez, Col. J. Pottinger, Lieut. Col. Caviglia, Dr. H. Muller and servant, Messrs H. W. Newman, M. Custodio, T. Reyes, Francis Ponce, Manuel Donato, F. Arenas Perez, W. J. Olham, A. Paggart, G. Areltine, W. B. Bragg, G. Miyauchi, T. Kanemoto, F. W. Brook, A. Wingrove and F. Domingo.

Printed and published by BERTRAM AUGUSTUS HALE, for the Concerned, at 10A, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong London Office, 131, Fleet Street, E.C.